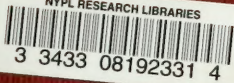


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HISTORY
OF
Clay and Norman Counties
Minnesota

THEIR PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES AND INSTITUTIONS

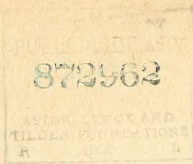
JOHN TURNER
AND
C. K. SEMLING
Joint Editors

With Biographical Sketches of Representative Citizens and
Genealogical Records of Many of the Old Families

VOLUME II

ILLUSTRATED

1918
B. F. BOWEN & COMPANY
Indianapolis, Indiana



872962

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Daniel C. Furrow M.D.



Alice M. Darrow

BIOGRAPHICAL

DANIEL C. DARROW, M. D.

Dr. Daniel C. Darrow, a member of the medical profession at Moorhead, county seat of Clay county, proprietor of the first hospital established in that city, and one of the best-known physicians and surgeons in the Red river valley, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Moorhead since the year of his graduation from medical college in 1884. He was born on a pioneer farm in the township of Clayton, in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, January 4, 1850, son of Daniel C. and Isabella D. (Murray) Darrow, both natives of New York state and members of old Colonial families, who became pioneers of Winnebago county, Wisconsin, and there spent their last days.

The elder Daniel C. Darrow came West with his family from New York in 1846 and pre-empted a tract of land between Neenah and Oshkosh, in Clayton township, Winnebago county, Wisconsin, where he established his home, one of the pioneers of that section, and where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring there on June 3, 1862. His widow survived him many years, her death occurring in December, 1895. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Annabelle, who married James Chamberlain, who became a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, going to the front as a member of the Third Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and who died at Andersonville prison after having been held there for thirteen months; Seymour F., who also gave his life that the unity of his country might be preserved, his death having occurred, at the age of nineteen years, while he was serving as a soldier of the Union, a member of the Twenty-first Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry; Mary H., who died at the age of twenty-six years; David M., who lived to be sixty-four years of age; Delia, wife of John G. Hubbard, now of Chicago; Grace, who died at the age of forty-four years; Dr. Edward M. Darrow, a grad-

uate of Rush Medical College and a resident physician at Fargo since 1878, one of the real pioneer physicians of the Red river country, and Gregg E., who died at the age of seven years. The mother of these children was a member of the United Presbyterian church and they were reared in accordance with the rigid tenets of that faith. The Darrows are an old American family, two brothers of that name having come to this country from the north of Ireland in Colonial days, settling in Connecticut. A son of one of these brothers served as a soldier of the patriot army during the War of Independence and it is from that Revolutionary sire that Doctor Darrow is descended. He was one of the company that put a cable across the river at Albany to stop the boats from coming up the river. The Murrays also are an old Colonial family, the ancestors of Mrs. Darrow having come to this side from Scotland in the days preceding the Revolution.

The junior Daniel C. Darrow was twelve years of age when his father died. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Winnebago county, receiving his schooling in the schools of Neenah, and after his marriage in 1872, established his home there. From the days of his boyhood he had been attracted to the study of medicine and after a while determined to devote his life to the medical profession. Presently entering Rush Medical College at Chicago, he was graduated from that institution in 1884. Thus admirably qualified for the practice of his profession, Doctor Darrow came up into the Red river country, his brother, Dr. Edward M. Darrow, having located at Fargo six years previously, and opened an office at Moorhead, across the river from the city in which his brother was practicing, and has ever since been engaged in practice at Moorhead, now the oldest physician in continuous practice in Clay county. In 1893 Doctor Darrow erected the first hospital erected in Clay county and is still operating the same, just recently having built an addition to the hospital, this addition being for the purpose of providing a home for the nurses. The doctor is a member of the Clay-Becker Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Society and the American Medical Association, in the deliberations of which organizations he takes a warm interest, and has ever kept abreast of the wonderful advances constantly being made in his profession. He also takes an active interest in civic affairs and for twelve years served as coroner of Clay county, rendering admirable public service in that connection. The doctor has done well in his practice and in addition to his property interests at Moorhead is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres in section 30 of Home Lake township, in Norman county. Since 1886 he has been a member of the local lodge

of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Moorhead and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On January 4, 1872, Dr. Daniel C. Darrow was united in marriage to Alice M. Stone, who was born at Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, daughter of Richard Stone and wife, and who was a schoolmate at Neenah, and to this union two children have been born, Bertha D., who married Charles Loring, an attorney at Crookston, and has two children, Helen and Genevieve, and Edith, who married Joseph V. Godfrey, who died in 1911, leaving two children, Vernon D. and Annabelle. Doctor and Mrs. Darrow are attendants at the Congregational church and have ever taken an interested part in the general good works of the community, as well as in its social and cultural activities, and have been helpful in many ways in promoting movements designed to advance the common welfare hereabout. Mrs. Darrow's father, Richard Stone, was a native of England and for nine years served as a member of the Royal Guard, with the rank of corporal.

TORGE GUNDERSON MUHLE.

The late Torge Gunderson Muhle, whose memory ever will be cherished in this section of the Red River country as one of the very first settlers in Clay county and perhaps the first settler in that part of the county now comprised within the bounds of Moland township, he having pre-empted a claim there in 1870, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of Minnesota since he was nineteen years of age, he having accompanied his parents to this state in 1866. He became a substantial pioneer farmer in Moland township, owner of a fine farm, where his last days were spent, his death occurring there on September 21, 1897, and where his widow is still living.

Torge Gunderson Muhle was born in Norway in 1849, son of Gunder and Hageborg (Chestersdatter) Torge, also natives of Norway, who came to the United States with their family in 1866 and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Houston county. There Torge G. Muhle remained until 1869, in which year he made a prospecting trip up here into the then prairie wilds of the Red River country and in 1870 pre-empted a quarter of a section of land in what later came to be organized as Moland township, in Clay county, though that was in the days before Clay county

had been organized as a civic unit. The next year his parents joined him on that pre-emption claim and the family home was established there, one of the very first permanent settlements made in this section of the Red River valley. Upon the enactment of the homestead law in 1872, T. G. Muhle converted his pre-emption into a homestead, "proved up" on the same and gradually improved and developed the place until he had a well-established farm. In 1879 there joined the Torge family a young woman just out from Norway, Guro Olasdatter Rue, and on December 21, 1879, in the little neighborhood school house, there then being no church thereabout in which to celebrate a marriage, Torge G. Muhle and Miss Rue were united in marriage, amid the felicitations and well wishes of many friends. After his marriage Mr. Muhle continued to make his home on his homestead place and became a well-to-do farmer and a man of substantial weight and influence in his community, his death occurring there, as noted above, in the fall of 1897. He was the second in order of birth of the six children born to his parents, the others having been Ole, Carrie, Chester, Ole (second), and one who died in infancy, all of whom are now deceased save Chester.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Muhle has continued to make her home on the old home place in Moland township and has done much to further improve the place, having erected substantial new buildings, and has also increased her land holdings, being the owner now of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land. She is a daughter of Ole and Joraand (Johansdatter) Chesterson, also natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1883, several years after the coming here of Mrs. Muhle, and for about twelve years thereafter made their home with the Muhles, but later settled on a tract of their own; later, however, returning to the Muhle home, where their last days were spent. They were the parents of five children, of whom Mrs. Muhle was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Carrie (1), Carrie (2), Chester and Liv, all of whom are still living, Chester Chesterson now being a resident of the territory of Alaska. Mrs. Muhle has a very pleasant home in Moland township and has ever taken an earnest interest in the general affairs of the community of which she has been a resident ever since her coming to this country back in the early days of the settlement of this part of Minnesota.

To Mr. and Mrs. Muhle ten children, eight of whom are living, were born, named as follow: Gust Olaf, Olaus, Oscar (deceased), Oscar, Josephine Emelia, Edward Julius, Eva Olive, Gina Theressa, John and Martin Tidman, the latter being deceased.

R. H. DENENNY.

In writing the history of Norman county, Minnesota, and especially of Borup it is well to mention the life's work of R. H. Denenny, a prominent and successful hardware dealer of that place. He was born in the state of New York in the year 1877, the son of C. C. and Catherine (Barry) Denenny, who were also born in the state of New York, where they received their education in the public schools and grew to maturity. They were later united in marriage and established their home in the state of their nativity and early life. There Mr. Denenny engaged in general farming after his marriage and there he and his wife and family lived until the year 1880, when they decided to leave their home in that state and establish a home in the state of Minnesota. On their arrival here they settled in Clay county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. The tract was undeveloped and unimproved at that time and the prospects for a future home were not bright to the people who had come from a thickly settled and well-developed section of the state of New York. A house was erected, in which the family lived for some years, and the task of developing and improving the farm was begun. By much hard work and close application to business, Mr. and Mrs. Denenny in time transformed the wild prairie and wood tract into a splendid farm, and where once grew the forest tree and the wild prairie grass, there grew the golden grain, and the pasture lands were dotted here and there with herds of fine cattle and splendid hogs. The task was not an easy one, and it required the energy and determination of a vigorous people. It was here that Mrs. Denenny spent the remaining days of her life, devoted to the interests of her family and the community in which she lived. Her death occurred in the year 1914, after a life of usefulness and well doing. She was a woman in whom the people of her home community had the greatest confidence, and at her death she left to mourn her passing a large circle of friends, who felt the loss of her taking away. Since the death of his wife, Mr. Denenny has lived at his home in Felton, where he and his wife first came on their arrival in the state many years ago.

C. C. Denenny has always taken the keenest interest in the affairs of the district in which he has lived, and where he has exerted such an admirable influence. He has held many of the local offices and during his official life always gave the same careful care and attention to public matters that he has given to his own business; and has always been interested in those projects that had to do with the growth and development of the township.

and the county in which he lived. Before the telephone became a part of the life of the people of this section, Mr. Denenny and his son, R. H. Denenny, installed a line between the farm and the village home for their own convenience. This enterprise led to the extension of the system and soon Mr. Speck connected with the line and it was not long till others had joined the colony of pioneers in the telephone business. This line was in time extended to the town of Borup, after which the Borup Telephone Company was organized and the line was extended to all parts of the territory and other towns. This was in the year 1905, and on the organization of the company C. C. Denenny was made the first president of the company and has since held the position. To him much of the success of the company depends, and it is to his credit that he and his son were the very first in their locality to enjoy the pleasure and convenience of this invention. Mr. Denenny is a man of unusual ability and business tact and his leadership has resulted in much that has been of advantage to the community in which he has lived so long. His advent into this territory was at a time when the settlements were few and far apart. In the great development of the district he has done well his part and has ever devoted his best efforts to that development. He and his wife were of Irish descent, though they were born in this country. His parents, as well as those of his wife, were born in Ireland and there they received their education and grew to maturity and later came to the United States, where they established homes.

C. C. and Catherine (Barry) Denenny were the parents of the following children: F. C., R. H., William, Grace, Jack, Stella, C. C. and Bernice, all of whom are living save the last named. Mr. and Mrs. Denenny were long active members of the Catholic church and were devoted to the cause of religious teaching in their home community, Mr. Denenny ever being a liberal subscriber to the support of the local church.

R. H. Denenny received his education in the schools of Felton and Moorhead and was reared on the home farm, during his boyhood days assisting his father with the work on the farm. After he had reached manhood he and his brother, F. C. Denenny, for six years farmed the home place, which had been extended to comprise four hundred and eighty acres. In addition to this, Mr. Denenny had one hundred and sixty acres of his own and his brother had one hundred and sixty, which, together with the father's land, made a tract of seven hundred and sixty acres. This tract of splendid land was all in one body and was later developed and improved

and put under a high state of cultivation. In connection with their general farming they were extensive breeders and raisers of stock and were known over the county as successful and substantial farmers and stockmen. After having spent six years in the work on the farm, R. H. Denenny located in the town of Felton, where he was for two years successfully engaged in the well-drilling business and operating a threshing-machine. He then moved to Borup, where in 1911 he purchased the hardware and implement business of Oscar Mattison, which business he has since conducted with success. He has a well-stocked store and his constantly increasing trade is evidence of his popularity and business tact. He is possessed of much business acumen and is held in the highest esteem by all.

In 1904 R. H. Denenny was united in marriage to Lillian Paranto, of Viding township, Clay county, the daughter of Midie Paranto and wife, who were among the early pioneers of that section. To this union the following children have been born: Gladys, Eunice, Raymond, Curtis and Francis. Mr. and Mrs. Denenny are devout members of the Catholic church, and are prominent in the social life of the town. Mr. Denenny has always taken an active interest in local affairs and is one of the influential men of the town as well as the county. Being possessed of excellent judgment, his advice and counsel are often sought in matters that pertain to the general welfare of the community.

ANDREW E. HOLM.

Among the native-born Norwegians who have come to America and engaged in general farming with success, is Andrew E. Holm, who was born in the kingdom of Norway, on May 7, 1854, a son of Even and Emilia (Christianson) Ingebrightson, both of whom were also born in that same country, where they were of the farming class.

Even Ingebrightson was educated in the schools of Norway and worked at farming up to 1871, in which year he immigrated to the United States, first locating in Fillmore county, this state. He continued to reside there for ten years and in 1881 moved to Norman county and lived with his son, Andrew E. Holm, until his death. He operated a small farm, which he continued to work during his active years. His wife died in Norway. They were the parents of five children, namely: Sirene, who died in

Norway; Mathia, who also died in that country; Bertha, who is living in Beltrami county, this state; Andrew E., the subject of this sketch, and Torger, of Hendrum township, Norman county. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the same faith.

Andrew E. Holm was educated in the schools of his native country and in 1871 came to Minnesota with his father and settled in Fillmore county, working on the farm. About nine years later he moved to Norman county and in the summer of 1879 he homesteaded a quarter section of land in Hegne township, and here he has made his home ever since, engaged in general farming, and since the commencement of his agricultural operations has met with a marked degree of success. He has effected a number of substantial improvements and erected some fine farm buildings and has set out a grove which adds much to the general appearance of the holding. Mr. Holm is also the owner of one hundred and thirty-five acres in section 7, Hegne township, which is given over to the production of general crops.

Andrew E. Holm has been twice married. His first wife was Christina Anderson Holm, who was born in Norway; she died some years after her marriage. There were no children of that union. Mr. Holm later was married to Matilda Johnson, also a native of Norway. There are two children of this marriage, Anna and Edwin. The Holm family are members of the Concordia Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of all its good works, Mr. Holm being a generous contributor to the upkeep of the church. Mr. Holm takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs and has served as road overseer for some years.

HON. CHRISTEN L. SULERUD.

Hon. Christen L. Sulerud, mayor of Halstad, former representative in the Minnesota state Legislature from the sixty-first legislative district, a well-known hardware dealer in the flourishing village of Halstad and the proprietor of one of the best-improved and most thoroughly equipped dairy farms in Norman county, is a native of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Norman county since he was sixteen years of age. He was born on July 17, 1865, son and last-born of the eight children of Christen Anderson and Karen (Johnson) Sulerud, also natives of Norway, the former of whom was a blacksmith and farmer, and both of whom spent



HON. CHRISTEN L. SULERUD.

all their lives in their native country, the other children of the family being Carl, Maren, Johan, Martin, Caroline, Sophia and John.

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Christen L. Sulerud received his schooling there and at the age of sixteen years, in 1881, came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, his destination being Ada, county seat of Norman county, which county had just been organized in that year. Mr. Sulerud's residence in this county, therefore, has covered the full period of the county's existence as a separate civic entity and he has been a witness to and a participant in the development of the same since pioneer days. After his arrival at Ada, Mr. Sulerud entered school there and attended for some time, perfecting himself in English, and for some years after his arrival was engaged at various forms of employment, including several winters of service as a clerk in a store at Strand. He then engaged in the mercantile business, as a partnership, at Gary and was there about three years, at the end of which time he returned to Ada and clerked in a hardware store there for about three years. He and his brother, John Sulerud, then bought a hardware store at Ada and operated the same for one year, or until 1894, when they moved to Halstad and opened a hardware store there, which business they have been conducting very successfully ever since, long having been regarded as among the leading merchants and business men of that thriving little city.

For years Mr. Sulerud has been much interested in the dairy business and is a practical dairyman of large experience, his dairy farm of about three hundred and seventy-five acres directly adjoining the town of Halstad being looked upon as one of the best-equipped dairy farms in northern Minnesota. During his service in the Legislature Mr. Sulerud succeeded in securing the enactment of a bill furthering the interests of the dairymen of this state, which gained for him the warm gratitude of all those thus engaged. Mr. Sulerud's dairy barn, a very convenient structure, built in L shape, one hundred by sixty by sixty feet, with cement floor, is a model of up-to-date convenience, equipped with steel mangers and stalls for his fine herd of Guernsey cattle, steel watering basins for the cows, a milking-machine, operated by a gasoline engine, electric lights, and other conveniences designed to bring the operations of the dairy plant as near to perfection as possible. Mr. Sulerud raises little corn on his place, devoting the most of it to alfalfa and potatoes.

Politically, Mr. Sulerud is an ardent Prohibitionist and in 1908 he was made the nominee of that party for representative in the Legislature from the sixty-first Minnesota legislative district, carrying the election by

a vote four times in excess of the Prohibition vote, an evidence of confidence on the part of the voters of the district very highly appreciated by Mr. Sulerud and his friends. So satisfactory did his service in the House during the session of 1909 prove that Mr. Sulerud was re-elected in 1910 and gave equally efficient service during the session of 1911. Mr. Sulerud has ever given his close attention to local civic affairs and has served for years as president of the Halstad school board and in other ways has done a good citizen's part in advancing the best interests of his home town, which he now is further serving as mayor.

In 1893 Christen L. Sulerud was united in marriage to Emma Beise and to this union five children have been born, Hazel, Gladys, Clark, George and Lester. The Suleruds have a very pleasant home at Halstad and take an interested part in the community's various social activities. Mr. and Mrs. Sulerud are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and give their earnest attention to church work and other good works in the community, ever helpful in promoting all worthy movements for the advancement of the common welfare.

JACOB BURRILL.

The first of the numerous and sterling old Burrill family in America was John Burrill, father of John Burrill, the second, who was born in 1658 and died in 1731. He was the father of John Burrill, the third, who was born in 1694 and died in 1756. He was the father of John Burrill, the fourth, who was born in 1719. He was the father of John Burrill, the fifth, who was born in 1752 and died in 1842. He was the father of Jacob Burrill, who was born in 1818 and died in 1891. The latter was the father of H. R. Burrill, merchant of Hawley, Clay county, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. Paul C. Burrill, of 1518 Ninth street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has compiled a genealogical record of the family and from that is copied the following:

There were at least two different families of Burrills in Massachusetts in Colonial times. One was a descendant from George Burrill, of Lynn, that state, who was a prosperous farmer and one of the wealthiest men of his town. One of his descendants was for many years speaker of the Massachusetts Assembly, another was chief justice of Rhode Island, and it is very probable that the city of Burrill, that state, was named for him. The other Burrill family is descended from John Burrill of Weymouth,

Massachusetts. John Burrill, founder of the line in America, arrived at Weymouth, a town about twelve miles southeast of Boston in 1630. His wife was named Rebecca, and to them three children were born, John, in 1658; Thomas, in 1659, and Ephraim, in 1664. The son, John, married Mercy Alden, in Taunton, Massachusetts, June 26, 1688. She was a granddaughter of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins, who came over in the "Mayflower," and who were celebrated as leading characters in Longfellow's "Courtship of Miles Standish." It will be remembered that the first white child born in New England was Elizabeth Alden, daughter of John and Priscilla (Mullins) Alden. John Burrill, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born September 24, 1719. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War, and was known as Sergeant Burrill.

Jacob Burrill, of this review, was born at Dover, Maine, April 20, 1818. He grew up in New England and married Rachel Bennett, who was born in Quebec, Canada, February 18, 1824, and died June 1, 1904. John Burrill, of Weymouth, Massachusetts, the first of the family, married Nellie Craig. John Burrill, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, serving in a Massachusetts regiment, under General Gates. He took part in the battles of Bennington and Saratoga. About the close of the war he moved to Maine, locating at Dover, and there he spent the rest of his life, dying at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

Jacob Burrill, of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Dover, Maine. He worked on the farm when a young man; he also learned the carpenter's trade. About 1852 he moved to Framingham, Massachusetts. There he hauled stone to build the first normal school building ever erected in the United States. He also hauled the stone for the foundation for the house of Henry Wilson, later vice-president of the United States, whose residence was at Natick, Massachusetts. About 1854 he moved to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, where he followed the carpenter trade. In 1868 he moved to Keene, that state, where he was employed in the carpenter department of the railroad shops for a period of eleven years. In 1879 he came to Minnesota and took up a homestead in Clay county, being one of the pioneers here. He circulated the petition for the organization of the township which he named Keene, after his old home town in New England. He developed a good farm in that township and there spent the rest of his life. He was also one of the organizers of school district No. 30, and he built the school house. He was a Democrat in politics.

Eight children were born to Jacob Burrill and wife, namely: 1860

who is mentioned in a separate sketch in this work; Addie, the wife of Henry C. Longley, of Fitchburg, Massachusetts; Mary Augusta, who first married Charles Putney, and later Lewis Smith, and she is living in Idaho; H. F., who is mentioned in a separate sketch on another page of this volume; Nellie, deceased, was the wife of Frank Spooner, also now deceased, and they made their home in Fitchburg, Massachusetts; H. R., a merchant at Hawley, Clay county, who is mentioned in a separate sketch in this work; Susie, the wife of Ben Jacobson; Cora, who married Charles Brooks and they live in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PURKEY HENRY

Among the earliest settlers of Elkton township, in Clay county, were the Henry family, who settled there in the latter seventies, helped organize the township and became active and influential in the work of bringing about proper social conditions in the pioneer community. The head of this family, Abraham Henry, was a native of Pennsylvania and a man of the true pioneer breed, moving successively from Pennsylvania to Illinois and thence to Iowa and thence up here into the Red River valley, ever following the frontier, and here he spent his last days, one of the most influential pioneers of Elkton township, which he had helped to organize in the days of the beginning of the settlement of that region. His father, John Henry, was a man of much the same type and when seventy-two years of age, in 1854, headed an expedition, of which his son Abraham was a member, to the Pacific coast, acting as scout for the party and walking almost the entire distance. John Henry had served during the War of 1812 as a member of Commodore Perry's command on the Great Lakes.

In Pennsylvania, where he had grown to manhood, Abraham Henry married Rachel Jones, a daughter of Isaac and Esther (Neff) Jones, the former of whom was a native of Holland, who moved from Pennsylvania into Illinois, driving through with a family of eleven, the essential domestic belongings being transported in a one-horse wagon, all but the frailest of the party walking. Later, about 1855, Isaac Jones and his wife moved to Jackson county, Iowa, and there spent their last days. It was in 1854 that Abraham Henry had moved from Kane county, Illinois, to Jackson county, Iowa, and there he remained until 1878, when, finding the settlement there becoming too crowded for one of his pioneering instincts, he came up here

into the Red River valley and homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 26 in Elkton township, Clay county and "tree-claimed" the northwest quarter of the same section and settled down to prepare a place for his family, who joined him here the next year, he meantime having erected a shack of a house for their reception, and on that place he and his wife spent their last days, among the leaders of that community. Abraham Henry helped to organize the township. He and his wife were earnest Presbyterians and the latter offered the opening prayer at the first public religious service held in that community, that service having been held in the railway section-house, which for a time was used as a place of worship until presently a school house was built, the latter serving as a place for worship until later the Presbyterians erected a church at Baker. Abraham Henry and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being Clinton, Alfonzo, James E., Anna, Isaac, Betsy and Isabel.

Purkey Henry was born in Jackson county, Iowa, in June, 1861, and was eighteen years of age when he came up into Minnesota with the family and settled in Clay county. Upon reaching his majority he homesteaded a quarter of a section in Skree township and after his marriage in 1884 established his home there, continuing to make that his place of residence until 1890, when he moved back to the old home place and has since occupied that portion of it comprised in the northwest quarter of section 26 of Elkton township, the original tree-claim entered by his father back in the seventies. Mr. Henry has an excellent farm and he and his family are very comfortably situated there. He has taken an interested part in general civic affairs and has served as a member of the local school board. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian church and take a proper part in the general good works of the community.

In 1884 Purkey Henry was united in marriage to Ruth Jane Daniels, who also was born in Jackson county, Iowa, daughter of Kensey C. and Emaie (Rose) Daniels, who moved from that county into western Iowa and after five years of residence there came up into this part of Minnesota, in 1880, and homesteaded a quarter of a section in section 6 of Humboldt township, Clay county, where Kensey C. Daniels died about 1893. His widow survived him for more than twenty years, her death occurring at her home in the village of Baker in 1914. They were the parents of six children, who grew to maturity. Ruth Jane Daniels had received excellent schooling in Iowa and upon her arrival in Clay county was engaged at once as a school teacher, beginning in 1881 as the teacher of the first school opened between

Glyndon and Barnesville, for the first month of that term conducting her school in an old dirt-floor homestead shack that stood on land now a part of the farm of Charles Lamb, Sr., a little east of the present village of Downer. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry four children have been born, Joseph, Bemis, Lamont and Pearl. They have besides an adopted daughter, Matilda.

JUDGE CARROL A. NYE.

Specific mention is made in this history of Clay county of many of the worthy citizens who have figured in the growth and development of the county and whose interests are identified with its various phases of progress. Each has contributed his share to the well-being of the community, and to the advancement of its interests. Though all do not reach the heights to which they aspire, yet in some degree each can win a measure of success and bring advantages to his fellowmen. It is not necessary to follow any particular line of endeavor or engage in any particular vocation, to be of service to one's home community. In all walks of life there remains much good to be accomplished and many opportunities for the exercise of talent and influence that in some way touch the lives of those with whom one may come in contact, making them the better and the greater. Of the men of the county, who have had an elevating effect on the resident population, as well as on the entire district, it is well to mention one of the most prominent members of the Clay county bar, and one who has risen to a high position in the legal fraternity in the county, Judge Carrol A. Nye.

Judge Carrol A. Nye was born in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, in 1861, and received his education in the common and normal schools of that state. After having completed his education in the schools of the state, he entered the law office of his brother, Frank M. Nye, who was at that time located at Clear Lake, Wisconsin, and is now a successful attorney of Minneapolis, Minnesota. He later studied in the office of Robert M. LaFollette, the present senator from that state, and who was at that time located at Madison. He then entered the University of Wisconsin in 1886, where he was given the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He received the greater part of his education through his own efforts and, while in college, paid the larger part of his expenses with money earned by working on the farm and in teaching school. After completing his education and after having been admitted to the bar, he located in Moorhead, Minnesota, where he has since resided.

After having established his residence and having engaged in the practice of his profession in Clay county, Judge Nye met with much success, and always took the greatest interest in local affairs. His ability and force of character were soon recognized and he was appointed city attorney, which position he held for five years. He was then elected mayor of the city and was the efficient executive for four years, and was for eight years attorney for the county. His educational qualifications and high standing attracted to him the attention of the officials of the State Normal, and he served on the board of management of that institution for a term of six years. In all of these positions he gave to the people the highest measure of service and won the approval of the entire community. In 1910 he was elected district judge, and in 1916, was re-elected without opposition. His services on the bench have been of the highest class, and his decisions have been regarded as just by the people and the bar. His life as an attorney and as a judge has placed him among the high-minded and conscientious men of the district. Few men in the district are held in higher regard and few have had more to do with the high standard of moral excellence.

In 1886 Carrol A. Nye was united in marriage to Mary A. Gordon, and to this union a son, James G., was born. He received his primary education in the local schools, and later was graduated from the Philip Exter College and the University of Wisconsin, and from the latter institution he received the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He later entered on the practice of his profession and has met with the highest degree of success. His patriotism and loyalty to his government have been demonstrated by the fact that he served with the troops on the border of Mexico during the years 1916 and 1917. He is now a commissioned officer at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota. In 1896 Mary (Gordon) Nye passed away, and two years later Mr. Nye was married to Harriett Rumball, and to this union one son has been born, Carrol A., Jr. Harriett Nye was for a number of years an instructress in reading and expression in the Moorhead Normal, and is a woman of education and refinement. Her work in the normal school was of the highest class, and many of the proficient teachers of the state bear evidence to her ability as an instructress. Since assuming her position in the home of Judge Nye, she has won the esteem of a large circle of friends, who hold her in the highest regard. She has long been identified with the social and religious life of the community. Mr. and Mrs. Nye's best efforts are ever exerted in the promotion of those enterprises that will tend to the future greatness of the district.

During his student days in the university, Judge Nye gave much atten-

tion to military training, and has always been a strong advocate of preparedness and the training of young men for military duty, whereby they may be able to assist in the defense of their country. In 1916 Judge Nye was at Plattsburg, New York, where he took part in camp life. On January 5, 1917, he was appointed captain in the quartermaster's division of the reserve corps of the United States army, which position he now holds. Judge Nye has lived an active and useful life and he has accomplished much that is worthy of note.

E. S. JENKINS.

E. S. Jenkins, a member of the board of commissioners of Norman county, former chairman of the board of supervisors of McDonaldsville township, vice-president of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Ada and a well-to-do retired farmer now living at Ada, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was ten years of age and of Norman county since pioneer days, he having settled here on a quarter of a section of land he pre-empted in McDonaldsville township back in 1878, in the days before the county was organized as a separate civic unit. He was born in Warren county, New York, October 7, 1856, son of Chauncey and Sarah (Davis) Jenkins, both of whom were born in that same county, who later became pioneers of Stearns county, this state, and there spent their last days.

Chauncey Jenkins was born on a farm in Warren county, New York, February 24, 1821, and was a farmer all his life. He married Sarah Davis, who was born on March 16, 1826, in the village of Hague, in that same county, and remained there until 1866, in which year he came with his family to Minnesota and settled in Stearns county, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Upon coming to this state he bought a farm three miles from Sauk Center, but presently left the farm and moved to Sauk Center, where he died in 1868. His widow survived him for many years, her death occurring in 1900, she then being eighty years of age. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: John W., born on May 19, 1846; Julia S., February 17, 1849; George W., August 17, 1851; Edith A., December 27, 1853, and Emma E., May 27, 1859.

As noted above, E. S. Jenkins was about ten years of age when he came to this state with his parents in 1866 and his schooling was completed



MR. AND MRS. E. S. JENKINS.

in the schools of Stearns county. His youth was spent on the farm and he later became engaged in a livery stable at Sauk Center, where he was employed until his marriage in the summer of 1878, when he and his wife straightway came up to this part of the state and established their home in Norman county, where they ever since have resided, honorable and influential pioneers of this section. They drove up here into the Red river valley by ox-team, riding in a "prairie schooner," and bringing with them such household goods as would be essential to the starting of their humble home in a new land. They were ten days in making the trip from Sauk Center. Upon arriving here Mr. Jenkins pre-empted a quarter of a section of land in what later came to be organized as McDonaldsville township and there established his home. The first small house he erected there presently was supplanted by a more substantial and commodious residence and the other improvements on the farm were in keeping with the same. He later added an adjoining "forty" and is now the owner of two hundred acres of well-improved land in sections 12 and 13 of McDonaldsville township, besides another "forty" in section 16. During his long residence on the farm Mr. Jenkins gave considerable attention to the raising of Jersey cattle, in addition to his general farming, and did very well. He remained on the farm until 1908, when he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Ada, where he and his family are now living and where they are very comfortably situated.

Mr. Jenkins has given considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community and is vice-president and a member of the board of directors of the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Ada. Since the organization of the Norman County Agricultural Society in 1895, he has been a member of the board of directors of that organization, was secretary of the same for five years and president for one term. He is an ardent Republican and ever since he settled in Norman county has given his earnest attention to civic affairs. For twenty-eight years he served as treasurer of his local school district; for ten years was chairman of the board of supervisors of McDonaldsville township, and for ten years was treasurer of the same. In the fall of 1914 Mr. Jenkins was elected a member of the board of county commissioners from his district and is now serving in that important and responsible public capacity, the whole county thus getting the benefit of his wide experience in county affairs.

It was on July 4, 1878, that E. S. Jenkins was united in marriage to Mary Reynolds, who was born in Waushara county, Wisconsin, September

9, 1861, a daughter of Solomon and Sarah (Armstrong) Reynolds, both of whom were born in the neighborhood of Syracuse, New York, the former on March 4, 1834, and the latter, October 27, 1843. Solomon Reynolds was an honored veteran of the Civil War, having served with a Wisconsin regiment, and was with Sherman on that commander's memorable march to the sea. He died on February 12, 1873, and his widow survived him for more than fifteen years, her death occurring on October 24, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins have three children, Ruby, who married George Coldwell and has one child, a son, Charles E.; Effie, who married J. C. Chick and has eight children, Vivian, Ora, Floy, Elmore, Arnie, Lloyd, Orin and Kenneth; and Jessie, who married Edward E. Carmen and has one child, a daughter, Mildred. Mrs. Jenkins is a member of the Congregational church. For more than twenty-five years she has been affiliated with the Daughters of Rebekah, the woman's auxiliary to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a past presiding officer of that organization in Minnesota.

JAMES GLASGOW, SR.

James Glasgow, Sr., manager of the Monarch Elevator Company's extensive plant at Barnesville, former member of the common council of that city and former president of the school board, is a native of Scotland, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age, a resident of Minnesota ever since his arrival in this country, with the exception of a couple of years spent in the grain business in Oregon during the early nineties. He was born in Ayrshire in October, 1855, son of Andrew and Ann (Robertson) Glasgow, both of whom also were natives of Scotland, the former born in Ayrshire and the latter in Dundee, who later became pioneers of the Red river country and whose last days were spent in Clay county.

Andrew Glasgow was a tailor and draper, who moved from his native Ayrshire to England about the year 1860 and there was engaged in the tailoring business until the year 1873, when he came with his family to the United States and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota and bought a tract of railroad land in the vicinity of Hawley, in Clay county, where he established his home and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, honored and influential pioneers of that community. Andrew Glasgow had a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he bought

in its raw prairie state and which he improved and developed into one of the best farms in that part of the county. As one of the real pioneers of Clay county, he took an active part in public affairs during the early days of the county's organization, served for two or three terms as a member of the board of county commissioners and for twenty-five years served as justice of the peace in and for his home township. He and his wife also were active in the work of the church in early days hereabout and were among the organizers of the congregation of the Congregational church at Hawley. They were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Anna, widow of the late Thomas M. Brown, of Hawley.

James Glasgow was but a child when his parents moved from Scotland to England and in the latter country he received his schooling, completing the academic course. He was about eighteen years of age when he came with his parents to this country and settled on a pioneer farm in the Hawley neighborhood and he at once took an active part with his father in the labors of developing and improving that raw prairie farm, continuing there thus engaged until 1891, in which year he went to Oregon, where he became employed in the service of the old Northern Pacific Elevator Company and where he remained a couple of years, at the end of which time, in 1893, he returned to Clay county and became engaged as manager of the old Minnesota and Dakota elevator at Barnesville, which position he ever since has occupied; the elevator and the extensive plant connected therewith now being the property of the Monarch Elevator Company, and is thus one of the best-known grain men in this part of the state, having been continuously engaged in the grain business at Barnesville for nearly a quarter of a century. Mr. Glasgow is the owner of a tract of several acres of ground just inside the city limits, where he makes his home and where he and his family are very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. Mr. Glasgow has for years given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and for two terms served as president of the local school board and for two terms as a member of the city council from his ward. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in the affairs of both of these organizations takes a warm interest.

In 1880 James Glasgow was united in marriage to Josephine Narveson, daughter of Narve Narveson and wife, pioneers of Eglon township, Clay county, and to this union eight children have been born, Anna, Andrew, Agnes, James, Josephine, Mary, Gretchen and Ruth, all of whom are living.

The Glasgows are members of the Congregational church and have ever taken an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of their home town, and have been helpful in promoting causes designed to advance the common welfare not only there, but throughout the county and this region at large.

WILLIAM J. AWTY, M. D.

Dr. William J. Awty, a practicing physician at Moorhead since the year 1892, was born on a farm in the province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada, January 24, 1863, son of Foljambe and Hannah (Chapman) Awty, the former a native of England and the latter of Ontario, whose last days were spent in Ontario. Foljambe Awty was a substantial farmer and a man of influence in the community in which he lived. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Mary A., Sarah E., Foljambe, Fannie M., Maud, Harriet G. and Kate M.

Reared on the home farm in Ontario, William J. Awty received his early schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when, in 1882, he went to Winnipeg, remaining there and at Ft. Arthur for about five years, at the end of which time, in 1887, he returned to his home in Ontario. The next year, in 1888, he entered the medical department of Trinity University at Toronto and was graduated from the same in 1891. Upon receiving his diploma Doctor Awty was appointed an interne in the City and County Hospital at St. Paul and after eighteen months of very practical and valuable service there opened an office for the practice of his profession at Moorhead, in October, 1892, and has ever since been located there, one of the best-known physicians in the Red river valley. Doctor Awty is a member of the Clay-Becker Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association and the American Medical Association and takes a warm interest in the deliberations of these organizations.

In 1906, Dr. William J. Awty was united in marriage to Ethel G. Lord, daughter of L. C. Lord and wife, and to this union two children have been born, William J. and Inez Lord. Doctor and Mrs. Awty are members of the Episcopal church at Moorhead and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general good works and social and cultural activities of the community in which they live.

GILBERT GUNDERSON.

Gilbert Gunderson, cashier of the Security State Bank of Hitterdal and one of the leaders in the business life of that thriving village, treasurer of Goose Prairie township and otherwise interested in the general affairs of his home community, was born in Clay county and has lived here all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Highland Grove township on June 12, 1883, son of Olaf and Maren (Kilstad) Gunderson, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively, the former born on October 24, 1832, and the latter, February 21, 1846, who became pioneers of Clay county and here spent their last days.

Olaf Gunderson came to the United States from his native Sweden in the days of his young manhood and settled in the neighborhood of Decorah, Iowa, where he presently married, later coming up into the Red river country in Minnesota and settling in Clay county. Upon his arrival here he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Highland Grove township and there established his home, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there. She died on June 16, 1896, and he survived her nearly twenty years, his death occurring in March, 1916. They were the members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were the parents of five sons and one girl.

Gilbert Gunderson was reared on the homestead farm in Highland Grove township and supplemented the schooling received in the local schools by a course in the Archibald Business College at Minneapolis, beginning his attendance there in 1900, when seventeen years of age. Upon leaving college he began working in the store of Ole P. Storberg at Hawley and later was employed in the general store of Rittiman & Eide and for the Andrew Johnson Company at that same place, continuing thus engaged in the mercantile line until in 1910, when he became employed in the State Bank of Hawley. For four years Mr. Gunderson remained in the bank at Hawley and then, in April, 1914, was elected cashier of the Security State Bank of Hitterdal, a position he ever since has occupied, one of the best-known young bankers in that part of Clay county. In addition to his banking interests Mr. Gunderson also takes an interested part in the general civic affairs of his home community and is the present treasurer of Goose Prairie township.

In the year 1907 Gilbert Gunderson was united in marriage to Mabel Mitchell, daughter of the Rev. Charles Mitchell, and to this union five chil-

dren have been born, Stanley, Dorothy, Harry, Florence and Grace. Mrs. Gunderson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Gunderson is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same. He is an active young business man and is regarded as one of the most energetic "boosters" in that part of the county.

PROF. C. A. BALLARD.

Prof. C. A. Ballard, one of the most popular members of the faculty of the Minnesota State Normal School at Moorhead and head of the department of biology of that institution, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, with the exception of a few years during his youth when he lived in Indiana. He was born at Zumbrota, in Goodhue county, this state, in 1867, son of Joshua Ballard and wife, the former of whom was a farmer, who, a few years later, moved back to his old home in Hendricks county, Indiana, with his family and remained there until about 1883, when he returned to Minnesota and again established his home at Zumbrota.

C. A. Ballard was about sixteen years of age when his parents moved back to this state and he completed his common-school education in the high school at Zumbrota, from which he was graduated in 1889. He then entered the University of Minnesota and after two years of attendance there began teaching school, but a year later returned to the university, from which he was graduated in 1894, with the degree of Bachelor of Science. While attending the university he won a scholarship in botany and held the same during his last two years of attendance there. During several summers while going to school he was engaged in work on behalf of the state botanical department and was a member of the party of botanists that established the Marine botanical station on Vancouver Island in the summer of 1891.

In the fall of 1894 Professor Ballard took up his real work as an educator and has since devoted his time and his energies to the cause of education. It was in that year that he accepted a position in the high school at Fergus Falls and in the December following his arrival there was made superintendent of the schools of that city to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Prof. Frank A. Weld, superintendent of the Fergus Falls schools. Professor Ballard remained at Fergus Falls, superintendent of the schools there, until 1899, when he was appointed a member of the faculty

of the State Normal School at Moorhead, in charge of the department of biology, and has since occupied that position, with his residence at Moorhead. During his residence in Moorhead, Professor Ballard has taken an active interest in the general affairs of the city and for six years served as a member of the city council. He owns a well-improved farm south of the city and gives considerable attention to the operation of the same.

In 1898, the year before he moved to Moorhead, Prof. C. A. Ballard was united in marriage to Ida Bell, of Fergus Falls, and to this union four children have been born, James, Curtis, Margaret and Edward. Professor and Mrs. Ballard are members of the Congregational church and take an earnest interest in church work, as well as in the general works of the community, and are recognized as among the leaders in the cultural activities of their home town. The Professor is a member of the Masonic order and takes an active interest in the affairs of the same.

REV. MARTIN ANDERSON.

The present pastor of the Trinity Lutheran church at Moorhead, Clay county, Rev. Martin Anderson, was born in Benton county, Iowa, May 17, 1882, a son of Mons and Sarah (Tvedt) Anderson, both natives of the kingdom of Norway.

Mons Anderson came to America in 1865 and located in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he remained for two years. He then moved to Benton county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming until 1905, in which year he retired from active work and moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he died in 1915. He was the father of eight children, as follow: Bertha, deceased; Andrew, Celia, John, Anne, Peter, Christine and Martin.

Rev. Martin Anderson received his elementary education in the public schools of Benton county, Iowa. He afterwards attended the St. Olaf College, at Northfield, Minnesota, and graduated from that institution in 1906. Having chosen the profession of the ministry he attended the United Church Seminary, at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he completed a course of theological study and graduated from that seminary in 1909 and was ordained in the same year. His first pastoral charge was at Madison, South Dakota, where he remained for nearly five years. In 1914 he came to Moorhead and accepted the pastorate of the Trinity Lutheran church in

this place, where he has since remained. In 1915 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, conferred by Fargo College.

Rev. Dr. Anderson has proven himself to be a man of ability, energy and influence by his work in this community. He was instrumental in the building of a fine new church, costing forty-two thousand dollars, which was completed in 1915. The building is of modern construction and equipped with modern appointments. It is a credit to the congregation and one of the attractive buildings of the town.

In 1909 Doctor Anderson was married to Cora Gunderson, daughter of John E. Gunderson, of Driscoll, North Dakota. Two children have been born to this union, Milo and Harriet.

W. M. NESHEIM.

W. M. Nesheim, a well-known druggist at Moorhead, was born in Decorah, Iowa, April 19, 1865, a son of Iver H. and Elizabeth Nesheim, the former of whom was born in Norway and came to America in young manhood, locating in Iowa, where he followed the occupation of a painter. In 1880 he removed to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and lived there until his death. His children were: Josephine, Christine, W. M., Ida, Emma (deceased), Oscar (deceased), and Louis (deceased). Iver H. Nesheim was head of the paint department of the Amon Scov & Company, of Decorah, and was a man of rare artistic talent, his decorative work giving him more than local fame.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the public schools of Decorah, Iowa. At the age of fifteen he began work in a drug store in Decorah, where he continued for about one year. In 1881 he went to Minneapolis and was employed in drug stores in that city for fourteen years. Coming to Moorhead in 1895, he engaged in the drug business on his own account in that city and has continued in this business there ever since.

In 1905 W. M. Nesheim and Eleanor Albertson, daughter of Orris Albertson, of Battle Lake, Minnesota, were united in marriage, and to this union three children have been born: Eleanor, Roseltha and William (deceased). Mr. Nesheim's fraternal affiliation is with the local lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen at Moorhead. Mrs. Nesheim's father, Orris Albertson, for many years one of the foremost residents of Battle Lake, which town he helped to lay out, buying the first town lot sold there.



W. M. NESHEIM.

was born in Jefferson county, New York, a son of Josiah and Rhoda (Riggins) Albertson, natives of the state of New Jersey. When nineteen years of age, in 1869, Orris Albertson came to Minnesota to join his sister, Mrs. Benjamin Sherman, in Otter Tail county, and for some time thereafter was employed as a clerk in the city of Otter Tail. In the fall of 1873 he married Mrs. Roseltha (Gould), Corliss, a widow and the owner of a homestead farm in Everts township, Otter Tail county, and took a homestead in his own name adjoining that of his wife. In 1876 he established a store on that farm and later moved the same to the new townsite of Battle Lake and for many years thereafter was engaged in the mercantile business there, six years of which time he served as postmaster. For eight years he served as clerk of the township and in 1904 was elected sheriff of Otter Tail county, an office he held for four years.

OTTO F. KELTING.

Otto F. Kelting, a well-known merchant at Downer and justice of the peace in and for Elkton township, Clay county, is a native of Germany, but has lived in this country since he was seven years of age and in Minnesota since he was twelve and is therefore thoroughly familiar with conditions up here in the Red river country. He was born on February 13, 1886, son of John and Anna (Grevey) Kelting, also natives of Germany, who came to this country in 1803 and after a residence of five years in Chicago came to Minnesota and located in Clay county, where they are still living, substantial residents of Elkton township.

John Kelting was born on April 9, 1861, son of Otto and Anna (Brown) Kelting, both also natives of Germany, farming people, the latter of whom is still living there at a ripe old age, and who were the parents of eight children, those besides John, the first-born, being Henry, Katherine, William, Otto (deceased), Augusta, August (deceased), and Ferdinand. During 1912-13 the Widow Kelting made a visit to her children in this country. John Kelting was trained as a stonemason in his native land and there became a proficient workman. From 1882 to 1885 he served in the army and in the latter year, shortly after his return to civil life, married Anna Grevey, who also was born in Germany, daughter of Hans and Katherine (Lench) Grevey, the former of whom is still living there. After his marriage John Kelting continued to make his home in his native land until

1893, in which year he came to the United States with his little family and located in Chicago, where he became engaged working at his trade as a stonemason and where he made his home for five years, or until 1898, when he came to Minnesota with his family and settled at Sabin, in Clay county, where he continued working at his trade and was thus engaged there until his appointment some years later, upon the establishment of rural mail routes out of Sabin, as a rural mail carrier out of that postoffice, the first carrier thus appointed there. A year later, in 1906, he bought a quarter of a section of land in Elkton township and has since made his home on that place, having improved the farm in admirable shape. John Kelting has given considerable attention to local civic affairs since becoming a resident of Clay county and while at Sabin and since moving to the farm has been a member of the school board, a period of about fifteen years. He also served for some time as justice of the peace. He and his wife are members of the German Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. Of the ten children born to them, seven are still living, those besides Otto F., the subject of this sketch and the first-born, being as follow: Emma, wife of Marcus Ullrich; Freda, wife of David Lamb, Gusta, who is engaged with her brother, Otto, in business at Downer, and Bertha, Minnie and August, at home.

As noted above, Otto F. Kelting was but seven years of age when he came to this country with his parents and his schooling was continued in the schools of Chicago until he came to Minnesota, where he completed his schooling in the Sabin schools. As a young man he became interested in railroading and for three years was employed as a brakeman on the Great Northern. He then became engaged in farming and was for seven years thus engaged, the owner of a quarter-section farm adjoining the village of Downer. He then sold his farm and on January 25, 1917, bought the store building and stock of goods of Kost Brothers at Downer and has since then been engaged in the general mercantile business in that village. Mr. Kelting has been attentive to local political affairs and is now serving as justice of the peace in and for his home township. He formerly served as constable.

On April 28, 1908, Otto F. Kelting was united in marriage to Elizabeth Kluck, who was born in Skree township, Clay county, daughter of Fred Kluck, one of the homesteaders and pioneers of that township, and a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume, and to this union six children have been born, Lawrence, Pearl, Alfred, Florence, Evalyn and William.

ANTON KOST.

Anton Kost, one of the early settlers of this part of Minnesota and a substantial landowner, of Mary township, Norman county, now living retired in the village of Downer, in Clay county, is of European birth, a native of the republic of Switzerland, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his young manhood, having settled up here in the Red River country, a homesteader in what later came to be organized as Mary township in Norman county, at that time a part of Polk county, and became one of the organizers of that township and chairman of its first board of supervisors. He was born on December 24, 1850, son of Joseph and Mary (Hellmiller) Kost, also natives of Switzerland, who spent all their lives in that country. Joseph Kost was a butcher. He died in the middle fifties and his widow survived him many years, her death occurring about the year 1880. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Joseph, Jack, Robert, Fitzmons, Katie and Christina.

Anton Kost was but a child when his father died. He grew to manhood in his native country and there learned the carpenter trade, remaining there until some little time after reaching his majority, when, in 1873, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out here to the Red River country, marrying in that same year a Swiss lass who had come out here and had located in Clay county in that same year. For a short time after his marriage Mr. Kost worked as a butcher at Moorhead, working for John Erickson, and then he entered a homestead claim on a quarter of a section of land in what later came to be known as Mary township, now in Norman county, but then a part of Polk county, and there established his home. One of his first steps in the way of developing and improving that virgin tract was the planting of a grove, which in the years since then has grown to noble proportions, one of the finest groves in that part of the county. When it came time to organize that pioneer community as a township for civic purposes, Mr. Kost took an active part in the work of organization and was chairman of the first board of supervisors of the township, a position he held for four years. He was the second treasurer elected in his school district (district No. 20) and held that position for twenty-one years, a strong and able factor in the work of developing the school system of the community in an early day. As he prospered in his farming operations Mr. Kost added to his holdings until he became the owner of an excellent farm of two hundred

and eighty acres, on which he erected substantial buildings, and gradually created there one of the best farm plants in that section. He also paid considerable attention to the raising of live stock and did very well. On that farm Mr. Kost made his home until his retirement in 1912 and removal to the village of Downer, where he built a fine house and where he and his wife are now making their home, comfortably situated and enjoying in quiet retirement the rewards of their labors during the pioneer period of the development of this region.

In 1873, shortly after his arrival in Clay county, Mr. Kost was united in marriage to Nina Heflicker, also a native of the republic of Switzerland, who had arrived here in that same year, and to this union four children have been born, Katie (deceased), Anton, Adolph and John. Mrs. Kost's parents, John and Katherina Heflicker, who also were born in Switzerland, spent all their lives in their native land. Mr. and Mrs. Kost are Catholics and aided in the organization of the first Catholic church in the community in which they settled in Norman county—St. Mary's church, which now is a strong and flourishing parish. As pioneers of this region they are thoroughly familiar with the details of the development of the country hereabout and both have many interesting tales to tell of the early days.

FRANK AUGUSTINE WELD, M. A., LL. D.

Dr. Frank Augustine Weld, president of the Minnesota State Normal school at Moorhead, is a native son of the old Pine Tree State, but he has been a resident of Minnesota for the past thirty-five years or more. He is thus as much a Minnesotan in spirit, and in the ardor of his service to this state as one "native and to the manner born." Doctor Weld was born in the city of Skowhegan, Maine, December 10, 1858, son of George and Lucy Ann (Robbins) Weld. His father was a cabinet-maker and farmer, who came to this state in 1899 and spent his last days in Moorhead.

Upon completing the course in the Skowhegan high school and Bloomfield Academy in 1877, Frank A. Weld entered Colby College at Waterville, Maine, where he received his collegiate training, having made his way through college by teaching country schools, the grammar school at Machias, Maine, and by serving as principal of the high school at Cherryfield, in that same state. In 1882 he came to Minnesota, where for a short time he was engaged in newspaper work in Minneapolis and St. Paul, but not long

afterward accepted a call to take the superintendency of the schools at Farmington. From Farmington he went to Zumbrota, in Goodhue county, a position which he occupied for five years. While living at Zumbrota, he married, and in 1886 accepted a call to the superintendency of the schools at Fergus Falls, in which city he was thus engaged for more than five years, at the end of which time he accepted the position of Northwestern representative for the publishing house of D. C. Heath & Company, with offices at Minneapolis. A year later, however, he resumed school work, going to Stillwater as superintendent of the schools of that city, and there he remained until 1899, in which year he received the appointment as head of the State Normal school at Moorhead, which office he has since held, making his home at Moorhead. Doctor Weld has devoted practically his entire life since reaching maturity to the cause of education, and there are few better known educators in the Northwest than he. In 1899 he received his master degree, and in 1914 Fargo College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. He has written and delivered many lectures on travel, art and literature, and his services are in wide demand on the lecture platform. Doctor Weld has served as president of the Minnesota Educational Association; he has been president of the Council of State Normal School Presidents, an organization covering all the states west of the Mississippi; he is now a member of the state commission of education, and he has held other important positions of trust. The Moorhead Normal school was the fourth school of its kind provided for by the state Legislature, the act passing in 1885. The site of the school is a gift of the Hon S. G. Comstock. The buildings are modern, and include a main building; two dormitories for young women; an addition to the main building, which contains a beautiful library, gymnasium and bath rooms; a model school building for the elementary school; and an auditorium, costing \$100,000, providing space for the science departments and a beautiful auditorium. The school was opened on August 29, 1888, with a membership of forty-two, and since that time the growth of the school has been steady and continuous. The present annual enrollment in all departments is one thousand four hundred and fifty.

As noted above, it was while living in Zumbrota that Doctor Weld was united in marriage to Hattie E. Elwell. To that union three children have been born, Moselle Edna, wife of Dr. O. J. Hogan, a well-known physician and surgeon of Moorhead; Lucy Ann, wife of Curtis Pomeroy, an attorney at Barnesville, and Frank E., now a senior in the Moorhead Normal school. Doctor and Mrs. Weld are members of the Congregational

church at Moorhead. Fraternally, Doctor Weld is affiliated with the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. He, also, is a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon college fraternity.

DAVID A. LAMB.

David A. Lamb, chairman of the board of supervisors of Elkton township, Clay county, and the proprietor of a fine farm in section 28 of that township, is a native of Scotland, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was five years of age, the Lamb family having come here in 1872, first settling in Becker county and later moving over into Clay county, becoming prominent and influential factors in the development of the pioneer interests of Elkton and Elmwood townships. In a memorial sketch relating to the late John Lamb, uncle of the subject of this sketch, and a biographical sketch relating to Charles Lamb, Sr., father of subject, presented elsewhere in this volume, there are set out in considerable detail particulars of the coming of the Lamb family from Scotland, their settlement in the Red river country and the part they took in the development of this region, and the attention of the reader is respectively directed to those narratives for further details of a genealogical and historical character in this connection.

David A. Lamb, eldest son of his father, Charles Lamb, Sr., was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, June 9, 1867, and was but five years of age when he came with his parents and grandparents to Minnesota, the family settling in Becker county and later moving over into Clay county, where he ever since has made his home. He received his schooling in the early schools of this latter county and grew up a practical farmer, thoroughly familiar with pioneer conditions hereabout. When he reached his majority, in 1888, he homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 28 of Elkton township and entered upon the task of improving and developing the same, and after his marriage in 1893 established his home there and has ever since resided there, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers and stockmen of that neighborhood. As he prospered in his operations Mr. Lamb added to his land holdings and is now the owner of three hundred and forty acres of excellent land, three hundred and twenty acres of which is in the home place, one of the best-developed half-sections thereabout. Mr. Lamb has substantial buildings on his place and has a fine farm plant. In

addition to his general farming, Mr. Lamb has given considerable attention to the raising of graded Shorthorn cattle and is doing very well. For years he has given close attention to the civic affairs of his community and for more than ten years has been serving as a member of the board of township supervisors, the present chairman of the board, and in that capacity has done much for the advancement of the general public interest.

In 1893 David A. Lamb was united in marriage to Elizabeth Mann, who also was born in Scotland and who died in 1901, leaving five children, Ernest, Jessie, Laura, David and Margaret, all of whom are living. Mrs. Lamb was a daughter of Alexander Mann and wife, who came to this country, but who returned to their native land after about two years of residence here. Mr. Lamb is a member of the Presbyterian church and takes a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes an active interest in the affairs of that organization.

NILS HOLBECK.

Nils Holbeck, proprietor of the New Columbia Hotel at Moorhead, former chief of police of that city, former deputy sheriff of Clay county and actively identified with the affairs of that county since old homestead days, he having been a homesteader in Morken township, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his boyhood, having come to this state with his parents, who settled on a homestead farm in Otter Tail county, this state, where they spent the remainder of their lives, honored pioneers of that county. .

Nils Holbeck was born on December 16, 1855, and was about fifteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents. For some time after coming here he worked as a farm hand on a farm near Fergus Falls and then came on farther West and for a time was employed on a farm in the vicinity of Fargo. He then went over to Bismark and thence after a while down into the Black Hills, whence he presently returned to Minnesota and settled at Moorhead, where he has made his home most of the time since then. Upon coming back to this state Mr. Holbeck entered a homestead claim to a tract of Land in Morken township, Clay county, and while living there was made deputy sheriff of that county, moving to Moorhead, where he later was made chief of police. Upon the com-

pletion of his term of service in that office he engaged in the coal business at Moorhead and later became proprietor of the old Columbia Hotel. When that building was destroyed by fire Mr. Holbeck went to Minneapolis, where for a time he was engaged in the retail liquor business, but he presently returned to Moorhead and resumed the proprietorship of the New Columbia Hotel and has since been conducting the house, one of the most popular hotels in this part of the country. In addition to the official positions above mentioned as having been held by Mr. Holbeck, he also for some time served as state game warden for this district and in that capacity did much to help preserve the native game out of season.

OLE H. HOGSTAD.

Among the persevering and energetic farmers of Oak Port township, Clay county, is Ole H. Hogstad, who was born in Norway, September 4, 1861. He is a son of Helge and Ingeborg (Nelson) Hogstad, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died on a farm. Their family consisted of four children, namely: Ingeborg, Bertha (deceased), Jacob and Ole H.

Ole H. Hogstad grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the public schools. In 1884 he emigrated to America, coming directly to Moorhead, Minnesota, and for some time he worked as a farm laborer in Clay county and has resided here ever since. He worked on farms along the Buffalo river for nine years, then rented land in Oak Port township for seven years, operating one hundred and sixty acres just across the road from where he now lives; but in the meantime he had purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land where he now resides. He moved on this land in 1899 and in due course of time had it under cultivation, erected a good group of buildings and set out a grove. He has one of the most desirable farms in the township, and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, now owning three hundred and twenty acres. He raises a great deal of grain, much of which is fed to live stock, preparing large numbers of cattle and hogs for the market annually. He plants a large acreage of potatoes every year, his land being admirably adapted to the growing of the white tubers.

Mr. Hogstad helped organize the Northern Potato Growers' Sales Company, and was president of the same for two or three years. He did much toward making it a pronounced success. He also helped organize the

Farmers' Elevator Company at Moorhead and was the first vice-president of the same. Politically, he is independent. He is township supervisor, which office he has held during the past sixteen years.

Mr. Hogstad was married on November 11, 1910, to Anna Grimstvedt, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Sven and Sigme (Ness) Grimstvedt, also natives of Norway, where they established their permanent home, and both of whom are now deceased. Sven Grimstvedt was married twice and was the father of fifteen children. Mrs. Hogstad came to America in 1897. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hogstad, namely: Helge, Segfred and Bertha.

CHARLES S. MARDEN.

Charles S. Marden, extensive owner of land, former member of the state Legislature and former county attorney for Clay county, is a native of the state of Vermont, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1882. He was born in Randolph, Vermont, on October 2, 1864, a son of Riley H. and Emily M. (Clifford) Marden, natives of the same state.

Riley H. Marden was born in Albany, Vermont, on January 24, 1832, and was a member of the legal profession and a well-known member of the bar in his native place. At the age of fifty, in 1882, he moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, where he continued to practice as an attorney and also became the owner of a tract of land. His death took place on July 22, 1900. Riley H. Marden served the cause of the Union during the Civil War and was a member of Fourth and Ninth Regiments, Vermont Volunteer Infantry, and later held a commission in the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh United States Colored Infantry. His war service covered the entire period of that conflict and he participated in several important engagements, receiving his honorable discharge at the close of the war. Mr. Marden's wife, Emily M. Clifford, was born in April, 1837, in the same house in Randolph, Vermont, as was her son, Charles S., the subject of this sketch. She died in April, 1871, eleven years before her husband came to this state. They were the parents of two children, namely, Mrs. Caroline E. Hooper, whose death occurred in Omaha, Nebraska, in March, 1899, and Charles S.

Charles S. Marden was reared in Bristol, Vermont, and attended the

public schools and Bristol Academy. In 1882 he accompanied his father to Minnesota, where they settled in Fergus Falls and he commenced taking a law course with the view to practicing as an attorney. In 1891 he moved to Barnesville, Clay county, where he resided until 1911, and where he served as city attorney from 1891 to 1901. From 1901 to 1907 Mr. Marden was county attorney for Clay county, and from 1911 to 1915 he represented the Sixtieth district in the Minnesota state Senate. During all those years of public service he commanded the unstinted confidence of the electors and was generally recognized as one of the leading and public spirited men of Clay county. In April, 1911, Mr. Marden removed his practice to Moorhead. In January, 1911, he organized the Red River Farm Loan Company, and has been president of the company ever since.

On January 2, 1886, Charles S. Marden was united in marriage to Elise E. Cayo, who was born on April 15, 1863, in Two Rivers, Wisconsin. They are the parents of two children, Irene Emily, who married L. V. Repke and is living at St. Paul, this state, and Edith Josephine, who became the wife of Fred M. Brophy and lives in Moorhead, this county. Mr. and Mrs. Marden take a proper part in the general social activities of the community in which they reside, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the community. Mr. Marden is a member of the Society of the Sons of the American Revolution; he is also a member of the Masonic order and is a Shriner and also holds membership in the Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and the Elks, and in all these several organizations takes an active part. He served two years in Company C, Second Regiment, State Militia, at Winona, Minnesota.

KNUD WEFALD

Knud Wefald, well-known lumberman of Hawley, Clay county, was born in Kragero, Norway, November 3, 1869. He is a son of Knut and Karen (Pederson) Wefald. The father was born June 10, 1843, in Drangedal Parish, Norway, June 10, 1843, and the mother was born in Songedal, Sondeled Parish, Norway. They grew to maturity, were married and established their home in their native land. The father was a non-commissioned officer in the regular Norwegian army for about twenty-five years. He was a surveyor by profession, but spent the latter part of his life on a farm. His was the oldest family in Drangedal Valley, the old Wefald home-

stead being the oldest dwelling in the valley. They were all known as good citizens and were influential in the affairs of their locality. Four children were born to Knut and Karen Wefald, namely: Knud, of this sketch; Martin, who lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota; Peter, who is farming in Mountrail county, North Dakota, and Emma, unmarried, who resides in Minneapolis.

Knud Wefald grew to manhood in Norway, and there he received a public school education; he also attended high school. He immigrated to America in 1887, landing in New York City on May 29th of that year. He came on West and located in Fossum township, Norman county, Minnesota, where he worked on farms until 1896, in which year he came to Hawley, Clay county, and accepted a position with the Wilcox Lumber Company, with which he remained until 1902, giving eminent satisfaction and doing much during that period to increase the business and prestige of the firm in the locality of Hawley. He took his family on a visit to Norway in 1902, remaining in the old country one year. He had redeemed the old home place, which he sold while there. In the fall of 1903 he returned to Hawley, Minnesota, and in the spring of 1904 he organized the Hawley Lumber Company in partnership with Andrew Johnson and H. F. Mensing, and he has been manager and secretary of the same ever since. The venture proved successful from the first and the business has gradually increased with advancing years until it has now reached vast proportions, which result has been due very largely to the efforts and judicious management of Mr. Wefald. A large and well-stocked yard is maintained and a complete line of building material and paints is handled. It is one of the best known and most successful lumber companies in Clay county.

Mr. Wefald was married in 1899 to Sarah Skree, a daughter of Mikel Skree and wife, natives of Telemarken, Norway. To Mr. and Mrs. Wefald nine children have been born, namely: Magnus, Harold, Egil, Karen, Martha, Olav, Nana, Else and Sarah.

Mr. and Mrs. Wefald are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in which he served several years as secretary. Fraternally, he belongs to the Woodmen and the Sons of Norway. Politically, he is a progressive Republican. From 1906 to 1912 he served as president of the village council of Hawley, to which office he was again elected in 1917. In 1912 he was elected representative and served two terms in the state Legislature, or during the sessions of 1913 and 1915. He made a most commendable record, of which his constituents and friends were justly proud. During the session of 1913 he, with the assistance of Senator Charles Menden-

secured an appropriation of one hundred thousand dollars with which to erect a science building for the Moorhead State Normal school. He made his influence felt for the general good of Clay county and the state. He is a man who is well informed on current topics of the day and has kept well abreast of the times. He is widely read and is a close observer. He is also public-spirited and scrupulously honest. He has done much for the upbuilding of Hawley, whose interests he has long had at heart and sought to promote in every legitimate way, and is eminently deserving of the good will and high esteem in which he is held by all who know him, irrespective of party alignment.

EUGENE ELLSWORTH LEACH.

Eugene Ellsworth Leach, member of the board of township supervisors of Elkton township, Clay county, and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres in the northern part of that township, is a native of Illinois, born at Franklin Grove, in Lee county, that state, on August 27, 1864, son of James and Lucy (Miller) Leach, who later moved to Dows, Wright county, Iowa, where the latter is still living.

James Leach was born in New York state in 1839. He later moved to Franklin Grove, Illinois, and was there married in 1863, to Lucy Miller, who was born in Illinois on June 16, 1846. Two or three years after his marriage James Leach established his home on a farm in the immediate vicinity of Dows, Iowa, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1889. His widow is still living there. They were the parents of four sons, the subject of this sketch, the first-born, having three brothers, Claud, of Dows, Iowa; Mont, who is married and is living in Clay county, and Harry, of Dows, Iowa.

Eugene E. Leach was but a child when his parents moved from Illinois to Iowa and settled in the neighborhood of Dows, where he received his schooling and grew to manhood, from the days of his boyhood a valued assistant in the labors of improving and developing the home place. In 1891, in Wright county, Iowa, Mr. Leach was united in marriage to Eva McCoy, who was born at Galesburg, Illinois, in 1872, and in the spring of 1904 he bought the farm on which he is now living, in Clay county, and has ever since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Leach is the owner of four hundred and eighty

acres, a half section in section 2 of Elkton township, and a quarter of a section cornering on the same in section 10, and has improved and developed the same in fine shape, now having one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general farming he is giving considerable attention to the raising of live stock, with particular reference to Poland China hogs and Shorthorn cattle, and is doing well in his operations. Mr. Leach gives his earnest attention to the general civic affairs of the community and is now serving as a member of the board of township supervisors. He is a progressive and public-spirited agriculturist and for the past year has been serving as president of the East Side Farm club.

Mr. and Mrs. Leach have twelve children, Ray, Roy, Arthur, Clyde, Lloyd, Earl, Alva, Lewis, Virgil, Ruth, Lucy and Velva D., all of whom are living, a very interesting family. They never have had a doctor on account of sickness up to the date of this publication. The Leaches have a pleasant home and take a proper interest in the community's general social activities.

JOHN W. ALLEN.

John W. Allen, former well-known extensive landowner and now a dealer in real estate, is a native-born Hoosier, whose birth occurred near Brazil, in the state of Indiana, on October 7, 1870. He is the son of William Allen and wife, the former of whom was a farmer on a large scale for several years in Indiana, later going to the state of Iowa, where he continued his farming operations, meeting with considerable success, and in that state he spent the remainder of his life.

When John W. Allen was ten years old he accompanied his parents from Indiana to Iowa and in the public schools of the latter state he received a sound general education. He was reared on his father's farm and assisted in the work on the land for some years. He then commenced to operate a farm on his own account in Iowa, engaged in general farming for several years, until the fall of 1900, in which year he came over to the state of Minnesota, coming to Barnesville. He has owned several farms in this vicinity, which he sold from time to time, always to advantage, and each of those farms varying from one hundred and sixty acres to two sections of land. Throughout the years he was engaged in the purchase and sale of his different land holdings, he was conducting on a large scale, a grain and stock farming business, a handsome competency accruing to him as

the result of his successful operations in those lines. During the greater part of his residence in Clay county, Mr. Allen has been engaged in handling real estate and now chiefly follows that occupation, at the same time being engaged in the sale of automobiles, and in all his various undertakings he has met with marked success, his knowledge of land values being well established throughout Clay county and outside it.

On October 3, 1893, John W. Allen was united in marriage to Mary V. Miller, a daughter of Johnson Miller and wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Allen six children have been born as follow: Claude, Harley, Gladys, Donald, William and Delores. The Allen family are earnest members of the Methodist church and are warmly interested in its good works and in all community good works, ever helping every worthy cause in the township and county.

Mr. Allen is a Democrat in politics, but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time to his real-estate interests. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in the affairs of that fraternal order he takes a lively interest.

EUGENE ASKEGAARD.

One of the enterprising young business men of Clay county is Eugene Askegaard, cashier of the Comstock State Bank, and a man who is doing much toward the development of his home town in a general way. He was born on the home farm in Pleasant township, Cass county, North Dakota, just across the Red river of the North, on February 1, 1884. He is a son of David and Minnie (Dunhom) Askegaard, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. Suffice it to say here that the father is one of the leading business men of Comstock and an old and influential citizen of Clay county.

Eugene Askegaard grew up on the home farm in Holy Cross township, Clay county, his father moving from Cass county, North Dakota, to a farm, the present site of the village of Comstock, in 1886, when Eugene was two years old. Here the son assisted with the general work on the farm, and in the winter time he attended the public schools at Comstock, later the State Normal school at Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1904. After leaving school he taught for three winters in the district schools of Clay county and during the summer months he worked in his

father's store or on the home farm. Upon the organization of the Comstock State Bank in 1909 he became cashier, the duties of which responsible position he has since discharged in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and to the satisfaction of the stockholders and patrons of the bank. He has been a close observer and student of modern banking methods and is an alert, courteous and painstaking man, who believes in system as well as fair dealing.

In January, 1910, he was appointed assistant secretary of the Comstock and Holy Cross Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and in 1916 he was elected director and secretary of the same. The pronounced and rapidly-growing success of this company has been due very largely to his influence, as he has done practically all the work in promoting and carrying on the work of the same since it was first started.

Mr. Askegaard married Harriet Charlotte Rustad on June 4, 1914. She is a native of North Dakota and grew to womanhood in Rustad, Minnesota. She received good educational advantages, graduating from the Moorhead State Normal. She is a daughter of Samuel and Valborg Rustad, a native of Rustad, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Askegaard two children have been born, Dorothy Margaret and Rachael Helen.

Politically, Mr. Askegaard is a Republican and he has been more or less active in public affairs for some years. He served as village clerk of Comstock for three years and is now serving his second year as treasurer of the village. He is at present clerk of the school board. He is a member of the Masonic order and the Norwegian Lutheran church.

EDWARD O. WARDEBERG.

One of the enterprising young business men of Barnesville, Clay county, Minnesota, is Edward O. Wardeberg, who was born on a farm in Wilkin county, this state, the son of Ole E. and Agnetta (Jenson) Wardeberg, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Ole E. Wardeberg came to America as a young man, and located in Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he made his home up to the time of his death, September, 1909. He was the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and sixty acres located in Prairie View township, his farm lying along the county line between Clay and Wilkin counties. He and his wife were the parents of four children, Edward O., Anton, George and Bertha. The family are

earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and are among the substantial citizens of their home community.

Edward O. Wardeberg received his early education in the public schools of his native county, and later attended the Agricultural College at Fargo, North Dakota. During his summer vacations he assisted with the work on the home farm until 1914, in which year he came to Barnesville, and in partnership with O. P. Landson, engaged in the general merchandise business, in which line he has met with a very commendable degree of success. Besides dealing in all kinds of general merchandise, they buy and ship many car-loads of potatoes. Mr. Wardeburg is well known, prominent and popular in the social activities of the younger residents of Barnesville, and also has an active interest in the affairs of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is a member. Mr. Wardeberg on July 9, 1917, married Clara Linn, of Maidenrock, Wisconsin.

BYRON GRAHAM LA GRANGE.

Byron Graham La Grange, proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Elkton township, Clay county, and one of the most progressive farmers of that neighborhood, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was six years of age. He was born on a pioneer farm in Winnebago county, Wisconsin, in 1858, son of Alonzo Graham and Anna M. (Hillman) La Grange, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Germany, she having come to this country with her widowed mother when she was but a child. In the fall of 1864 Alonzo G. La Grange came with his family from Wisconsin to Minnesota, driving through, and locating at Garden City, in Blue Earth county, arriving there on October 13 of that year. At Garden City he established a hotel and later a butcher shop and made his home there until 1868, when he moved to Worthington, county seat of Nobles county, opened a hotel there and continued in the hotel business in that city until his retirement. He is still living at Worthington, now nearly ninety years of age. His wife died in 1912. He is a member of the Presbyterian church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. There are three of these children, the subject of this sketch, the first-born, having two sisters, Grace and Leonice.

As noted above, Byron G. La Grange was but a child when he came



BYRON G. LAGRANGE AND FAMILY.

with his parents to Minnesota and his schooling was completed in the schools of Worthington. As a young man he followed various branches of industry, none of these various jobs being "snaps," however, he declares; and later became a railroad contractor and then a butcher, and for eight years was deputy sheriff of Nobles county. In the meantime he had bought a tract of land up here in the Red River country, in Elkton township, Clay county, and in March, 1906, moved here with his family and established his home on that farm and proceeded to improve and develop the same. Since entering upon the occupancy of his land Mr. La Grange has erected a substantial set of buildings and has otherwise improved the place until he now has a fine farm plant, one of the best-ordered places in the community. He has four hundred acres of excellent land and of late years has gone in quite extensively for potato raising, in addition to his extensive live-stock business, his specialty in the latter line being Durham cattle.

On November 5, 1894, Byron G. La Grange was united in marriage to Augusta Berreau, who was born in Nobles county, this state, daughter of Otto Berreau and wife and to this union two children have been born, a son and a daughter, Arthur Graham and Eudora Louise. Mr. and Mrs. La Grange are members of the Presbyterian church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live. Mr. La Grange is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

HERMAN G. WENDLANDT.

Herman G. Wendlandt, well-known merchant of Sabin, in Clay county, and for years postmaster of that village, also formerly and for years justice of the peace in and for Elmwood township, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm not far from St. Cloud, in Stearns county, May 16, 1869, son of Fred and Ernestine (Schultz) Wendlandt, natives of Germany, who were married in Stearns county and there spent their last days.

Fred Wendlandt was born in 1844 and was eleven years of age when his parents, Christian and Rebecca Wendlandt, left Germany in 1855 and came to the United States with their family, settling in Wisconsin, where they remained until 1863, in which year they came over into Minnesota and settled in Stearns county, where they spent the remainder of their

lives. Christian Wendlandt had served as a soldier in the army of his native country and was in the army at the time Poland took up arms against Germany, but did not participate in any active engagements. Fred Wendlandt was under twenty years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents from Wisconsin and in time he homesteaded a tract of land in Stearns county and after his marriage in that county established his home there. His wife, Ernestine Schultz, was born in 1845 and was eighteen years of age when she came to this country. She was a daughter of Gottfried Schultz and wife, the latter of whom was a Moede. Her mother died in her native land her father later married Wilhelmina Ernst and in 1863 left Germany with his family, and after spending a year in Canada came to Minnesota and became a homesteader in Stearns county, where he spent the rest of his life, living there to the age of ninety-one years. His father was a soldier in the Napoleonic Wars and carried a bullet in his knee to his grave. Fred Wendlandt became a substantial farmer of Stearns county and a man of influence in his community. He died there on September 12, 1916, and his widow survived him a little less than a year, her death occurring on February 5, 1917. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Rebecca, Emelia, Augusta, John, Louisa, Mathilda, Lena and William.

Reared on the home farm in the vicinity of St. Cloud, H. G. Wendlandt received his early schooling in the schools of St. Cloud and was later graduated from the State Normal school there, after which he was engaged in teaching school for three years, in the meantime becoming acquainted with commercial forms and the mercantile business, and remained there until 1899, when he came up into the Red River country and opened a general store at Sabin, in Clay county, where he ever since has been engaged in business, one of the best-known business men in that part of the county. In December of that same year Mr. Wendlandt was commissioned postmaster of Sabin and has ever since occupied that position. From the beginning of his residence in Clay county Mr. Wendlandt has taken an earnest interest in local political affairs, served for some time as a member of county Republican central committee and for years served as justice of the peace in and for his home township.

In 1900, the year after he became established in business at Sabin, H. G. Wendlandt was united in marriage there to Minnie Schroeder, daughter of Frank Schroeder and wife, pioneers of the Sabin neighborhood, and to this union three children have been born, Fred, Erna and

Hubert. The Wendlandts are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of their home community.

THEODORE EVANSON.

In the case of Theodore Evanson, a farmer of Ulen township, Clay county, the opportunity to succeed may not have sought the man, but most certainly the man sought and took advantage of the opportunity and he has made good application of the gifts which nature has bestowed upon him.

Mr. Evanson was born in Decorah, Iowa, May 4, 1866. He is a son of John and Catherine (Anderson) Evanson, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, but were not married until after they came to the United States. He came in 1850 and she preceded him by about one year, coming with her mother and stepfather, Iver Ringstad. Mr. Ringstad bought government land in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on which he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. The parents of the subject of this sketch located near Decorah, Iowa, where they were married, in 1851, being the first couple to marry in Winneshiek county, and were among the early pioneers there. They worked hard to get a start in the new country and eventually became very comfortably established. They owned one hundred and twenty acres for which they paid only one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. They subsequently bought and sold other farms in that county. Mr. Evanson made all the improvements on the homestead, erecting good buildings, his first house being of logs. Later a large frame dwelling was erected. When he married, Winneshiek county had not been organized and he was compelled to go a long distance to the county seat of Allamakee county, in order to procure the necessary license. Not knowing the customs in America very well he took his bride to the parson's residence and when asked for the license handed the preacher his first naturalization papers. So he had to leave his bride there and make a long journey to secure the proper license.

John Evanson took an active interest in the early affairs of Winneshiek county, which he helped organize, also assisted in organizing the township in which his land was located. He was thereafter incumbent of some township office, most of the time, until his death, the township being Madison. He was assessor of the same for a period of twenty-five years, also served as

treasurer for more than a quarter of a century; a part of the time he held both offices simultaneously. He gave a lot for the first cemetery and also for the first Evangelical Lutheran church in his community, and it was built on one corner of his farm. He and his wife spent the rest of their lives in that county, each reaching an advanced age.

To John Evanson and wife ten children were born, named as follows: Emelia, deceased; Nora; Eliza, deceased; Evan, deceased; Maria, Theodore, Lena, Edva, Anna, deceased, and Emma. They grew up on the home farm in Iowa and attended the district schools there.

Theodore Evanson grew to manhood on the home farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and he received his education in the district schools there. He continued to work on his father's farm until he went to Ada, Minnesota, in 1885, east of which town he rented a farm one summer; then returned home for a year. He later went to Norman county, Minnesota, and located in Green Meadow township, where he bought a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres, which he rented out most of the time and worked in the vicinity of Ulen, Clay county. He has made his home in Ulen township for a period of thirty years, or since 1887. During that time he has seen the township developed from a sparsely settled prairie to its present advanced position as a modern farming community. Upon coming here he bought a homestead right of one hundred and sixty acres, which he proved up on, but later sold out and in 1900 bought one hundred and twenty acres on which he has since resided. He made all the present excellent improvements on this land and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Ulen, whose pronounced success has been due very largely to his efforts. He was formerly a director of this concern and in 1916 he became manager and vice-president, but later gave up the office of manager; he is still discharging the duties of vice-president.

Mr. Evanson was married in September, 1891, to Gena Mobeck, who was born in Norway, from which country she came to America when young. She is a daughter of Lars Mobeck and wife. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Evanson, all of whom live at home at this writing; they were named as follows: Leonard, Eliza and Mildred.

Mr. Evanson has long been active in public affairs. Politically, he is a Republican. He was first road boss; later served about seven years as township assessor and is now clerk of the township, which position he has held for eighteen years, or ever since the village of Ulen was separated from the township. He served as school clerk while living on his homestead farm

from 1892 to 1900, when he moved to his present farm. At that time he was made clerk in this school district, which office he has since held. He belongs to the Lutheran church.

OMER J. PLUMMER.

Omer J. Plummer, a substantial farmer and stockman of Humboldt township, owner of a half section of land in that township, is a native of the state of Illinois and has been a resident of Clay county for the past ten years. He was born in Whiteside county, Illinois, on January 20th, 1852, a son of Kaleb and Rebecca (Pittenger) Plummer, the former a native of the state of Maryland and the latter, of the state of Ohio, and whose last days were spent in Iowa.

Kaleb Plummer was born in Maryland in 1803 and was educated in the schools of that state. He followed the occupation of a farmer and thus continued in his native state for some years, later moving to Iowa, where he resumed his farming operations and spent the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1894, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. He was a good, practical farmer of the old school and trained his sons to lives of usefulness. In 1830 Kaleb Plummer was married to Rebecca Pittenger, who was born in Ohio in 1814. The marriage was performed in Ohio and Mrs. Plummer died in Iowa in 1888, having reached the age of seventy-four years. To Kaleb Plummer and wife the following children were born: John, Susan and Hiram (twins), Anna, Thomas, Joseph, Nicholas, Elizabeth, Mary, Julia, Wayne, Omer J., Lydia, Belle and Catherine. Of the sons of this family, all are dead but Omer J., the subject of this sketch. Four of them volunteered for service on behalf of the Union during the Civil War, a family record to be justly proud of, and three of the four boys died while in the service.

Omer J. Plummer was educated in the public schools of Illinois and was reared on his father's farm. He accompanied his parents to Iowa and settled on the farm, where he continued to work, a valuable assistant in the development of the home place. He came to Clay county in 1907 and rented a farm in Eglon township, which place he worked for two years. The next year he rented a farm near Hawley and in 1910 he bought the farm which he now occupies, consisting of a half section of prime land, located in section 10, Humboldt township, and on this tract he is engaged in general farming and in the raising of a choice strain of Hereford cattle and is doing very well.

When Mr. Plummer took over the holding a set of good buildings had been already erected and his farm is now regarded as one of the best-kept and productive in the township.

On November 1st, 1874, Omer J. Plummer was united in marriage to Ida Downs, who was born in Ogle county, Illinois, July 9th, 1857, the marriage taking place in Iowa. To this union eleven children were born as follow: Lucy, married and lives in Missouri; Nicholas, married, lives in Nebraska; Mary, deceased; Caleb, married, in Iowa; Belle, married, in Iowa; Eddie, who is married and lives in Clay county; Cora, killed by a cyclone while the family lived in Iowa; Ida, at home, Hazel, deceased, and Sylvester and Henry, at home. Mr. Plummer takes a good citizen's interest in local affairs and in all movements intended for the benefit of the public. He is a director and vice-president of the Clay County Fair Association, proving a valuable factor in making the annual fairs a success, and in other ways he gives of his time and energy to the best interests of the community.

P. H. PEDERSON

P. H. Pederson, one of Moorhead's leading business men, proprietor of a hardware store in that city and president of the Equity Manufacturing Company, is a native of the Kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was seven years of age and of Moorhead since he was twenty. He was born in 1862 and was seven years of age when his parents, Peter E. and Mary (Chrislock) Pederson, left their native Norway in 1869 and with their children came to this country.

Upon his arrival in this country in 1869, Peter E. Pederson proceeded on out to Minnesota with his family and settled in Goodhue county, where he engaged in farming and where he made his home until 1882, in which year he came over into this part of the state with his family and settled in Norman county, buying a tract of land near Twin Valley, where he for a second time established his home in a pioneer section of this state and where he and his wife spent their last days. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Erick, Ralph, Caroline and Gertina.

As noted above, P. H. Pederson was but seven years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents in 1869 and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Goodhue county, receiving his schooling in the neighborhood

schools and at the same time gaining some practical business experience which, when he came over to this part of the state in 1882 with his parents, he presently put into use. Mr. Pederson was twenty years of age when he came up into this section and he secured employment at Moorhead, where he ever since has made his home. Some time after locating there he engaged in the wholesale liquor business in that city and later engaged in the lumber business over the river in North Dakota, though continuing to make his home in Moorhead. Gradually he acquired other interests and it was not long until he came to be recognized as one of the most active business men in his home town. In 1913 he became connected with the Moorhead Hardware Company, as a partner in that concern, a corporation, and presently became the sole owner of the same, now operating the business alone. Mr. Pederson also is president of the Equity Manufacturing Company of Moorhead and is vice-president of the Bergerth Fish Company at Fargo.

In 1893 P. H. Pederson was united in marriage to Emma Thorson, and to this union four children have been born, Irene, Esther, Clifford and Earl. The Pedersons are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work and the general good works of their home city.

HENRY WILLIAM HABERLE.

Henry William Haberle, one of the pioneers of Clay county and the owner of a half section of excellent land in Elkton township, where he and his family make their home, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this county since 1882. He was born on December 25, 1854, son of John and Fredericka (Caesemann) Haberle, also natives of that country, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of five children, Fred, Fredericka, Katherina, Henry W. and Elizabeth, all of whom are still living. John Haberle and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm in his native land, Henry W. Haberle received his schooling there and remained at home until 1882, when he came to the United States and after a year spent in New York state came to Minnesota, in 1883, and home-steaded a quarter of a section of land in Elkton township, Clay county, and proceeded to improve and develop the same. After his marriage in 1887 he established his home on that place and has ever since resided there. As he prospered he added to his land holdings until he now owns three

hundred and twenty acres, one of the best-improved farms in that part of the county. Mr. Haberle has long given his earnest attention to the general civic affairs of his community and was for years road overseer in his district.

Mr. Haberle has been twice married. In 1887, about four years after settling in Clay county, he was united in marriage to Paulina Beck, also a native of Germany, who died leaving two sons, Henry John and William Fred. In 1895 Mr. Haberle married Christina Weber, who also was born in Germany, daughter of Eberhart Weber and wife, and to this union four children have been born, Emma, Fred, Christina and Mary. The Haberles have a pleasant home on their well-kept farm in Elkton township and take a proper interest in the general affairs of the community.

JOHN GRIFFIN.

The late John Griffin, one of the pioneers of Clay county, who died at his home in Barnesville, that county, in the fall of 1913, was a native of County Kerry, Ireland, but had been a resident of this country since the early seventies, he having come to the United States shortly after reaching his majority. He was born in 1850 and grew to manhood in Ireland. Upon coming to this country he located in Massachusetts, but after awhile came West, proceeding on up into the Red River country, and after awhile homesteaded a tract of land in Alliance township, Clay county. In 1885 he returned East and at Holyoke, Massachusetts, in that same year, married Margaret Griffin, who also was born in County Kerry, Ireland, and who had come to this country in 1882.

After his marriage John Griffin returned to Clay county with his bride and established his home on the homestead farm in Alliance township, one of the most substantial pioneers of that part of the county, a continuous resident of Clay county for more than forty years. Mr. Griffin was the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres of land, which he had improved in admirable shape and brought to a high state of cultivation, he long having been regarded as one of the most progressive farmers of his neighborhood. He developed that land from its virgin state, built up an excellent farm plant and was very comfortably circumstanced at the time of his death, which occurred on October 29, 1913.

To John and Margaret (Griffin) Griffin were born ten children, namely: John, deceased; Thomas, deceased; Catherine, deceased; Mamie, who is



JOHN GRIFFIN.



MRS. MARGARET GRIFFIN.

married and living in Iowa; Josephine, who is now living in Fargo; James, who is assisting with the management of the home farm; William, deceased; Patrick, who is assisting with the management of the home farm, and Margaret and Cecelia, also at home. The Griffins have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live. Besides her extensive farm holdings, Mrs. Griffin also is the owner of a house and lot in Barnesville, and she and her family are quite well situated. They attend the Catholic church at Barnesville.

JOHN S. BARRY.

John S. Barry, clerk of Alliance township, Clay county, owner of a fine farm of five hundred and sixty acres in that township and president of the Baker Telephone Company, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of Clay county since 1881 and a landowner there for the past twenty-five years and more. He was born on a farm in St. Lawrence county, New York, on January 21, 1859, son of John and Margaret (Clemmons) Barry, both natives of Ireland, who were married in St. Lawrence county, New York, and there spent their last days, the former dying in 1902, at the age of seventy years, and his widow surviving until 1909, she being over ninety years of age at the time of her death. The Barrys are genealogically connected with the famous Commodore Barry of Revolutionary fame. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Hannah, who is now living in Wisconsin; Mary, deceased; Bridget, died in Felton; Thomas, who came to this part of Minnesota and spent his last days in the village of Felton; Kate, deceased; Julia, who lives at Massena, New York; Joseph, of Louisville, New York; William P., of Felton; Samuel, deceased, and Henry, who is now a practicing attorney at Dickinson, North Dakota.

Reared on the home farm in St. Lawrence county, New York, John S. Barry received his schooling in the neighboring schools and early began teaching school. In 1881 he came to this part of Minnesota and began to teach school at Georgetown and was for seven years thereafter engaged in teaching there and in other schools in the county, during the summers giving his attention to farming, and after his marriage, in 1891, bought

a farm and established his home. In 1900 he bought the farm on which he is now living, in section 2 of Alliance township, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Barry has an excellent farm of five hundred and sixty acres and has the same improved in admirable shape, one of the best general farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to keeping up his farming interests, Mr. Barry has long given his earnest attention to the civic affairs and general business life of the community and for seventeen years served as a member of the school board and is now serving as town clerk. He is also president of the Baker Telephone Company and has done much to extend the telephone service throughout that part of Clay county.

At Moorhead, Minnesota, June 25, 1891, John S. Barry was united in marriage to Cora Agnes Burns, who was born in Mason county, West Virginia, near Glenwood, June 25, 1867, and to that union have been born seven children, namely: Irwin, who was married on June 2, 1917, and who is the owner of a quarter of a section of land in the neighborhood of his father's home; Edith, who is a teacher in the schools of Clay county; Paul, deceased, and Malcolm, Russell, John and Philip, who are at home. The Barrys are Catholics, members of the church at Barnesville, and take a proper interest in parish affairs, as well as in the general social and cultural activities of their home neighborhood, and are helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout. Mr. Barry is a member of the local lodge of Woodmen and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

VICTOR E. VERNE, M. D.

Dr. Victor E. Verne, a practicing physician at Moorhead since the summer of 1909, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in the city of Minneapolis, March 2, 1883, son of Olof and Charlotte (Blom) Verne, natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who are still living at Minneapolis, where Olof Verne is engaged in the merchant tailoring business and where he has made his home since he came to this country in 1871. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church. They have four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, the others being Dr. Paul C. Verne, a well-known dentist at Moorhead; Dr. Arthur Verne, of Cando, North Dakota, and Charlotte.

Reared in the city of Minneapolis, the place of his birth, Victor E. Verne was graduated from the high school there and in 1902 entered Minnesota State University, later entering the State College of Medicine and Surgery, a department of the University, from which he was graduated in 1906, with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. Upon receiving his diploma, Doctor Verne was appointed an interne at the City and County Hospital at St. Paul and was thus engaged for a year, at the end of which time, in the summer of 1904, he took a course of supplemental work under Doctor DeLee. In 1906 Doctor Verne opened an office for the practice of his profession at Biwabik, in St. Louis county and was located there from June to December of that year, when he returned to St. Paul and was further engaged there in the City and County Hospital for a few months, at the end of which time, in 1907, he opened an office at Parker's Prairie, in Otter Tail county. The next year he married and he continued in practice at Parker's Prairie until in July, 1909, when he moved to Moorhead, where he opened an office for the practice of his profession and where he since has been located. The Doctor is licensed to practice in North Dakota as well as in this state and is doing very well in his practice. He is a member of the Clay-Becker Medical Society, the Minnesota State Medical Association, the American Medical Association, Association of Military Surgeons, United States Army, and Southern Minnesota Medical Society, and takes a warm interest in the deliberations of these bodies. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and Noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. In 1908 Doctor Verne married Charlotte Granell and has one child, Marion, born on July 26, 1911.

Dr. Paul Conrad Verne, younger brother of Dr. V. E. Verne, was born in Minneapolis in 1882 and after his graduation from the high school in that city entered the dental department of the State University, from which he was graduated in 1909, with the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery. Following his graduation he began the practice of his profession at Minneapolis and was thus engaged there for two years and six months, at the end of which time, in 1912, he joined his brother, Dr. V. E. Verne, at Moorhead and has ever since been engaged in practice there. Dr. P. C. Verne is a member of the National Dental Society and of the state organization of dental surgeons, as well as of the local society maintained at Fargo and Moorhead and at Crookston, and the North Dakota Dental Society. He is a Scottish Rite Mason and a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club. Dr. P. C. Verne married Cora Agnes Christopherson and has two children, Paula and Jeanne, both daughters. Both of the Doctors Verne have pleasant homes at Moor-

head and take an active interest in the general social and cultural activities of their home city.

On May 2, 1917, Dr. V. E. Verne applied for a commission in the Medical Officers' Reserve Corps, United States Army, and on July 10, 1917, he received his appointment by President Wilson as first lieutenant in the medical service.

JAMES M. WITHEROW.

James M. Witherow, court commissioner for Clay county, former city attorney of Moorhead, a practicing attorney in that city for the past twenty years and one of the best-known lawyers and public speakers in this part of the state and in the neighboring state of North Dakota, is a native of the Emerald Isle, but has been a resident of this country since he was seventeen years of age. He was born in the north of Ireland on December 19, 1869, son of James Witherow and wife, both of Scottish descent, and received his early schooling in his native land, remaining there until he was fifteen years of age, when, in 1884, he came to the United States.

Upon arriving in this country Mr. Witherow proceeded on up into the Red River valley, his point of destination being Grandin, Traill county, North Dakota. After two years in North Dakota, he left and came into Minnesota for the purpose of attending school, stopping in Norman county, where he worked on farms during vacations. During the winter of 1887-88 he attended Carlton College and later entered the Minnesota State Normal at Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1892. During the year following his graduation, Mr. Witherow was engaged in teaching school at St. Vincent, up in Kittson county, and during the succeeding winter, 1893-94, was engaged in teaching at Caledonia, Traill county, North Dakota. Upon the completion of that term of school Mr. Witherow returned to Moorhead and entered systematically upon the study of law, a subject to which he had for some time been giving his thoughtful attention, having carried on his law studies and the study of elocutionary expression privately during the time he was engaged in teaching school, many hours having thus been put in practicing expression. On June 21, 1898, Mr. Witherow was admitted to the bar and has since been engaged in the practice of his profession at Moorhead, for years having been regarded as one of the leading lawyers in this part of the state, his recognition as a trial lawyer having come early in his practice. For ten years he served as attorney for the city of Moorhead and for the past

twenty years has been court commissioner for Clay county, which official position he now occupies. Mr. Witherow is an active and ardent Republican and has done much campaigning for his party, particularly in North Dakota, under engagement to the Republican national committee. He also is widely known as a lecturer and his lectures on travel, literature and kindred subjects are in much demand among farmers' clubs and school organizations.

On November 26, 1904, James M. Witherow was united in marriage to Emma Jane Bond, daughter of James Bond and wife, the former of whom is a farmer living near Hunter, North Dakota, and to this union four children have been born, Grace, Margaret (deceased), James and Frank. The With-erows are members of the Episcopal church and take an earnest interest in church work. Mr. Witherow was reared in the Presbyterian church, his people for generations having been Presbyterians, and one of his uncles was for some time moderator of the General Assembly of that church in Ireland. Fraternally, Mr. Witherow is affiliated with the Masons and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that order.

BRUNO KIPPELS.

Bruno Kippels, proprietor of the Moorhead laundry, owner of the public abattoir in Moorhead, formerly and for years a well-known building contractor in that city and in other ways identified with the community of which he has been a part since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born in 1856, son of William and Katherina (Isaacheimer) Kippels, also natives of Germany, the former of whom was a farmer and a manufacturer, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of eight children.

In his native Germany, Bruno Kippels learned the trade of a miller and that of a baker and remained there until the summer of 1880, when he came to this country, landing at the port of Baltimore, August 1. A few weeks later he came on out to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, presently home-steading a quarter of a section of land in Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and the next spring entered upon the task of developing and improving the same, giving that place his close attention for nine years, at the end of which time he disposed of his farming interests and at Moorhead engaged in carpentering. Three years later he began work as a building contractor

on his own account and for ten or fifteen years was engaged at Moorhead as a contractor. In the meantime Mr. Kippels had engaged in the retail meat business at Moorhead, in partnership with Hubert Zervas, and that partnership continued for about eighteen years, or until it was dissolved in 1911. It was about 1906 that Mr. Kippels built the public abattoir in Moorhead and he still owns the same. In October, 1914, he bought the Moorhead laundry and has since owned and operated the same with much success, the excellent character of the work turned out at his laundry having recommended the place widely throughout this section. Mr. Kippels has put on the market three quite successful inventions, a children's merry-go-round, a clothes hanger and a plaiter, and has done quite well in the several enterprises with which he is connected.

On October 4, 1904, Bruno Kippels was united in marriage to Martha Kopish, and to this union four children have been born, Joseph, John, Bruno and Mary. The Kippels are members of the Catholic church and take a proper interest in parish affairs.

JAMES E. HENRY.

Elsewhere in this volume there is set out at considerable length something of the genealogy and history of the Henry family, which settled in Clay county in the seventies and became among the most useful and influential factors in the early settlement and organization of Elkton township, and it therefore will not be necessary to repeat those details in connection with the subject of this sketch.

James E. Henry was born in Kane county, Illinois, April 11, 1852, son of Abraham and Rachel (Jones) Henry, who later moved with their family to Jackson county, Iowa, and thence, in 1878, up into this section of Minnesota and settled in Clay county, as set out in another part of this volume. In the meantime, in 1875, James E. Henry had gone from Jackson county, Iowa, to Cass county, in that same state, and in 1880 he left there and came up here to join the other members of the family in Clay county and upon his arrival here homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Elkton township and there established his home, he having married the year previously. To that quarter section he added, by purchase, an adjoining "eighty" just across the road on the east, and now has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres. Mr. Henry has an interest in the farmers' creamery and in the farmers' ele-

vator at Barnesville. For sixteen years he served as a member of the township board and for the past twenty years has been treasurer of his local school board.

In 1879, at Greenfield, Iowa, James E. Henry was united in marriage to Mary E. Daniels, who was born in Jackson county, Iowa, daughter of Kensey Daniels and wife, further reference to whom is made elsewhere in this volume, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Marion Henry. Mr. and Mrs. Henry have an adopted daughter, Ida Ellen.

W. P. KROLL.

Among the many enterprising Germans who have made a success in their adopted country is W. P. Kroll, who is the owner of a fine farm in Elkton township, Clay county, and is also the affable proprietor of a flourishing livery business in Barnesville. He was born near Stetien, Prussia, on September 3, 1860, and is a son of Charles and Augusta (Riemer) Kroll, both of whom were also natives of Germany.

Charles Kroll and family came to America in 1870, settling first in St. Cloud, Minnesota, from which place they dove overland with an ox-team to Long Prairie, Todd county, Minnesota. They were among the early pioneers of that county, where they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. In those early days their market and base of supplies was either St. Cloud or Long Prairie, and supplies had to be hauled one hundred miles, the round trip requiring six days. In addition to farming, Charles Kroll freighted supplies to the early settlers of Todd county for four or five years, and his death occurred in Long Prairie in 1876. In 1884 the mother and family moved to Hawley, Clay county, Minnesota, where the mother died in 1915. Charles Kroll and wife were parents of six children, B. E., Charles, W. P., Annie, Pauline and Albert, the last two having been deceased. The family were all faithful members of the German Lutheran church.

W. P. Kroll received his early education in the public schools of Long Prairie, later attending the schools of Moorhead. After leaving school he worked for a time with his brother in a flour-mill at Hawley, but in 1887 he homesteaded land in Elkton township, and proceeded to develop and cultivate his tract. He placed all the improvements on his farm, which now consists of two hundred acres, and lived there until 1910, when he moved to

Barnesville, and in this little city he has been engaged in the livery business very successfully for the past seven years.

In 1887 Mr. Kroll was married to Isabel Wilson, the daughter of A. Henry Wilson, a resident of Elkton, Minnesota. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge, and takes an active interest in the affairs of that organization. While living in Elkton township, Mr. Kroll very efficiently served his township as school clerk for eighteen years; was supervisor of Elkton township for a period of four years, and also served as road overseer for eight years, and ably discharged his duties as a citizen of his community.

WALTER COOK, JR.

Walter Cook, Jr., a prosperous farmer and stockman, the owner of a full section of land in Clay county, is another of those enterprising Canadians who have come across the border to Minnesota. He was born in Canada on July 8, 1866, a son of Walter and Eleanor (Ching) Cook, both of whom were natives of Devonshire, England.

The elder Walter Cook and his wife left England in 1857 and went to Toronto, Canada, where they resided up to the year 1882, in which year they crossed over to the United States and settled in this part of Minnesota. Walter Cook had learned the carpenter trade and participated in the "Fargo boom" of 1882. In the same year he settled on a homestead and farmed during all the years of his active life and met with marked success in his farming operations. He was among the early settlers in this part of the county and lived on the homestead farm, which he acquired in 1882, until 1909, after his wife died, when he came to live with his son, Walter, Jr., and has reached the fine old age of ninety years, honored and respected by the community in which he has lived for more than thirty-five years. His wife, Eleanor (Ching) Cook, died at the advanced age of eighty-three years. She was born on March 4, 1826, in Devonshire, England. To Walter Cook and wife the following children were born: William Alfred, living in Flint, Michigan; Anna, who resides in Canada; Jennie, in Minneapolis, this state; Ellen, deceased; Carrie, Josephine, Mary Grace and Walter, all living in this country, and Joseph, who was drowned when a boy of nine years old. The Cook family were members of the Episcopal church.

Walter Cook, Jr., came with his parents from Canada to Clay county in 1883 and settled on the homestead farm which his father entered the



WALTER COOK, JR., AND FAMILY.



MRS. WALTER COOK, SR.



previous year. He worked on his father's farm for several years, and later decided to engage in farming on his own account. In 1889 he purchased a tract of land and commenced to cultivate crops, and as he prospered in his labors he added to his holdings from time to time until he became the owner of one full section of land. He has set out eighty acres to the cultivation of potatoes and has had good average crops from that source. He is extensively engaged in general farming and stock raising and is recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in Elmwood township. He has carried out many costly improvements, his outbuildings and dwelling house being in the front rank in the district in which he resides. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Cook finds time to give attention to public affairs and has been township assessor for three years, and is a warm advocate of all movements calculated to serve the public welfare.

On February 11, 1891, Walter Cook, Jr., was united in marriage to Jane Lamb, a daughter of Charles Lamb and wife, and to their union the following children have been born: Cora, who married Merle Schenck, of Elmwood township, and they have two children, Vera and Milo; Elsie, Myrtle, Allen, Edith, Charlie, Jennie, Robert, Etta, Clifford and George. The family are earnest members of the Presbyterian church at Baker and are warmly interested in all its good works as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

EDGAR B. MCCOLGIN.

Edgar B. McColgin, postmaster of the village of Downer, in Clay county, and the proprietor of a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining that village, is a native of the old Keystone state, but has been a resident of the Red River country and of Clay county since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on a farm in Armstrong county, Pennsylvania, April 14, 1872, son of Thomas and Mary (Marshall) McColgin, both natives of that same state and the former of whom is still living there, being now past ninety years of age. Thomas McColgin served as a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, a member of a Pennsylvania regiment. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, Oscar, William, Luella, Anna, Elizabeth, Grant, Totton, Edgar and one who died in infancy. Thomas McColgin and wife were members of the Presbyterian church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm in his native Pennsylvania, Edgar B. McColgin received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and for two terms taught school there. He continued to make his home there, helping in the cultivation of the home farm, until he was twenty-four years of age, when, in 1896, he came to Minnesota with a view to establishing himself as a farmer up here in the Red River country, and located in Clay county. Two years later he married and after his marriage established his home on a farm southeast of Hawley, where he remained until about 1905, when he moved to his present quarter-section farm in the vicinity of Downer, where he ever since has been actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and has done well. For years Mr. McColgin has given his close attention to local civic affairs, for some time served as a member of the board of township supervisors and is the present treasurer of Elkton township. On January 1, 1910, he was commissioned postmaster of Downer and has ever since occupied that position. In that same year he bought a store at Downer and has since continued to manage the same, at the same time giving his general direction to the management of his well-kept farm. Mr. McColgin is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at the neighboring village of Baker and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On December 7, 1898, Edgar B. McColgin was united in marriage to Anna Mix, daughter of Charles Mix and wife, of Clay county, and to this union four children have been born, Thomas, Totten, Eloham and William. The McColgins have a very pleasant home and give proper attention to the community's general social affairs.

ANDREW JOHNSON.

One of the enterprising and influential citizens of Hawley, Clay county, who has forged to the front by his own efforts, often in the face of obstacles that would have discouraged men of less courage and mettle, is Andrew Johnson, well-known general merchant. He was born in Norway, February 12, 1857, and there he grew to manhood and attended school. He remained in his native land until 1876, when he immigrated to the United States, locating in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin.

In 1879, with William E. Bennett and James Craig, Mr. Johnson came to Hawley, Clay county, and worked in this vicinity for two years at the carpenter's trade. In 1882 he and Pete Larson started in the lumber business

under the firm name of Johnson & Larson also taking contract building at Hawley. This partnership continued with mutual benefit and ever-increasing success until the spring of 1887, at which time Mr. Johnson engaged in general merchandise, lumber and machinery business on his own account, in fact, he handled everything that could be bought and sold in this part of the state to advantage. He did a large business from the start and carried an extensive stock of goods, his customers coming from all over the eastern part of Clay county. In the spring of 1904 he organized the Hawley Lumber Company, in partnership with Knud Wefald and H. F. Mensing. They established a large yard and put in an extensive stock of all kinds of lumber and other materials used by builders. Under the wise foresight and counsel of Mr. Johnson the venture has proven more successful even than was at first anticipated, and it is now one of the leading lumber firms of the county.

Mr. Johnson is a heavy stockholder in the First National Bank of Hawley and is a director in the same. He is also a dealer in potatoes at Hawley on a vast scale, buying and shipping many carloads annually. He sold his machinery business a few years ago, and he now devotes much of his attention to the operation of his fine department store in Hawley, which would be a credit to towns much larger than Hawley. It is modern in all its appointments; a varied, extensive and carefully selected stock of goods is carried at all seasons and everything is managed under a superb system. The thousands of regular customers of this popular store always are assured of honest, prompt and courteous treatment by both the management and the employees.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1882 to Louise Anfinson, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota. She was educated in the public schools. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of six children, two boys and four girls, all living at Hawley.

Politically, Mr. Johnson is a Republican. He served as president of Hawley, also on the village council for some time. He has done much toward the general welfare of Hawley in fact, has been one of its principal boosters ever since he located here, believing in its future with implicit confidence. He always supports any movement having for its object the good of his town and county. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic Order, and he is a member and liberal supporter of the Lutheran church, which he helped to organize. He is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished, unaided and by sheer force of character, having started out in life with no capital, a stranger in a strange land. He is a man whose word is as good as the bond of most men, and he has the respect and good will of all who know him.

LARS HITTERDAL.

One of the well-remembered citizens of Clay county during the generation that is past, whose name is deserving of perpetuation on the pages of local history was the late Lars Hitterdal, for many years a successful farmer of Goose Prairie township. He was born in Norway in 1859, a son of Ole and Berat Hitterdal, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity and married. They finally came to America and located in Houston county, Minnesota, when their son, Lars, was nine years old, and when he was about sixteen years old his parents moved to Clay county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, Goose Prairie township. The father had improved the place only slightly when he died, leaving it to his son, Lars. The mother, who spent her last years with her daughter, Mrs. Faregan, in Hitterdal, died in 1914 at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

To Ole Hitterdal and wife six children were born: Bens, who lives on a farm in Highland Grove township; Lars, of this sketch; Marie, deceased; Mrs. Marie Faregan, of the village of Hitterdal; Ole, living in Hitterdal, and Hanna, who lives in the state of Washington.

Lars Hitterdal grew to manhood on the home farm and he was educated in the district schools. After inheriting the homestead he continued to develop it into a fine farm and as he prospered he bought adjoining land until he owned one of the choice farms of the township, consisting of five hundred acres, which his widow now owns. He erected an attractive home and a good group of outbuildings. He carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, raising vast quantities of grain and large numbers of live stock. He was regarded as one of the most progressive farmers of this locality.

Mr. Hitterdal married Isabel Clementson, who was born in Norway on March 25, 1864. She came to America when ten years old with her mother and six other children, about the year 1875. Her father was a farmer and died in Norway. His widow came to America, as stated, in 1875 and located with her children in Houston county, Minnesota, and there the children worked out. The mother took up a claim near Ulen, Clay county. She was a woman of courage and business ability and she provided well for her family, keeping her children together and giving them educational advantages. She lived to the advanced age of eighty seven years, dying in 1914.

To Lars Hitterdal and wife seven children were born, namely: Clara,

married and living in North Dakota; Mrs. Olga Viner, married and living in Highland Grove township; Minnie, Oden, Clifford, Leona and Harry, are all five at home.

Mr. Hitterdal was a Republican. He served as a member of the school board in his district; also as a member of the township board. He was a member of the United Lutheran church, of which he was a trustee. He was a man who believed in keeping abreast of the times. He raised full-blooded live stock and did much to encourage raising better stock in his township, especially cattle. He and his brother, Bens, owned the first steam tractor engine in their locality.

The death of Lars Hitterdal occurred on November 21, 1900, at the age of forty-one years. Mrs. Hitterdal later married for her second husband Carl Broton, who owns a harness shop in Hawley, Clay county, also a store there. This last union has been without issue.

CHRISTIAN REHDER.

Christian Rehder, owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of fine land in Alliance township, Clay county, for many years chairman of the board of supervisors of that township, president of the Farmers Elevator Company of Comstock, vice-president of the State Bank of Comstock, a member of the board of directors of the Northwestern Hospital at Moorhead, formerly treasurer of his home township, formerly overseer of roads in his district and in other ways for years actively identified with the civic and business interests of the community in which he has lived since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-one years of age and of Clay county since the year 1884, one of the most substantial citizens and homestead farmers in the southern part of the county. He was born on August 15, 1860, son of John and Magdalena Rehder, both also natives of Germany, the former of whom died many years ago in his native land. The widow Rehder later married Fred Kuehl, father of Bendix Kuehl, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume. About 1889, some time after he had become well settled in Clay county, Christian Rehder sent for his mother and his step-father and they came from Germany and located at Sabin, where Mr. Kuehl spent his last days, his widow thereafter making her home with her son Christian, her last days being spent there.

Reared in his native land, Christian Rehder received his schooling there and remained there until he was twenty-one years of age, when, in 1881, he came to the United States and located at Davenport, Iowa, in which city and in the vicinity whereof he remained for about eighteen months, the most of that time being engaged in farm labor. He then went to Des Moines and was there engaged, driving a delivery wagon and working in the coal mines, until his marriage in 1884, in which year he came up here into the Red River country, Sabin being his destination, and in June of that year homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 30 of Alliance township, in Clay county, established his home there and has ever since resided there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. When Mr. Rehder settled on that quarter section it was raw prairie land and for six years after settling there he farmed with oxen. He planted a fine grove, which is now an attractive feature of the landscape thereabout, and gradually improved his place; replacing his original homestead building with buildings of a substantial character, and has for years had one of the best-ordered farm plants in that part of the country. As his affairs prospered Mr. Rehder added to his homestead holdings by purchase of additional land and now has a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of seven hundred and twenty acres. Of late years he has given considerable attention to the raising of potatoes, which have proven to be such a desirable crop in this region, and has done much to encourage potato culture among his neighbors. Not only has he done well in his farming operations, but Mr. Rehder has for years given his intelligent attention to the general business affairs of his community. He helped to organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Comstock and is now president of the same. He also assisted in the organization of the State Bank of Comstock, a member of the board of directors from the beginning of that sound financial institution, and is now vice-president of the same. In all measures having to do with the community's general welfare he also has taken a warm personal interest and is a member of the board of directors of the Northwestern Hospital at Moorhead. In civic affairs Mr. Rehder also has taken an active interest and for many years has been serving as a member of the board of township supervisors, for years past chairman of the board. He also for years served as overseer of roads in his district, in that capacity doing much to encourage the better-roads movement hereabout, and also served for some time as treasurer of his home township. He also helped to organize the Comstock and Holy Cross Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company, of which he is treasurer.

In 1884, about three years after coming to this country, Christian Rehder

was united in marriage to Christina Schmoor, who also was born in Germany, and to this union eight children have been born, Franz, Adelia, Bertha, Selma, Paulina, Henning, Edward and Max, all of whom are living. The Rehders are members of the Lutheran church at Sabin, with the affairs of which they have been closely identified for years, Mr. Rehder having helped to build the present house of worship and parsonage of that congregation, and take an earnest interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

H. H. HANSON.

H. H. Hanson, a well-known and substantial retired farmer of Hendrum township, now living retired in the village of Hendrum, former member of the township board and actively identified with the interests of that part of the county since pioneer days, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was seven years of age and of Norman county since shortly after attaining his majority. He was born on July 17, 1858, and was seven years of age when his parents, Hans and Bertha (Gilbertson) Hanson, left their native Norway in 1865 and came to the United States, proceeding on out to Minnesota and settling in Houston county, whence, two years later, they moved over into Fillmore county and there established their home. Hans Hanson became a substantial farmer in Fillmore county and remained there until 1881, the year in which Norman county was organized, when he disposed of his interests in Fillmore county and with his family moved to Norman county. He bought a tract of two hundred and twenty acres in section 21 of Hendrum township, established his home there and there he and his wife spent their last days, his death occurring in 1903. Hans Hanson and wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There are two children, the subject of this sketch, the first-born, having a sister, Annie, who married R. H. Thompson.

Having been but a child when his parents came to this state, H. H. Hanson completed his schooling in Fillmore county and from the days of his boyhood was a valuable aid to his father in the labors of the farm. Upon moving to Norman county with his father he practically took charge of the operations of the new farm in Hendrum township and did well, at one time, in association with his father, owning about five hundred acres of land.

He still owns two hundred and eighty acres and has the same well improved. In 1910 he rented his farm and retired from active farming, moving to Hendrum, where he and his wife are now living and where they are very comfortably situated. While living on the farm Mr. Hanson took an active part in local civic affairs and for some time served as a member of the township board.

On November 28, 1888, H. H. Hanson was united in marriage to Julia H. Harvey, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, daughter of H. and Martha (Solberg) Harvey, natives of Norway, the former born in November, 1837, and the latter, in 1838. H. Harvey was but a boy when he came to America with his parents, the family locating in Houston county, this state, later moving to Fillmore county, where he married and where he remained until 1882, when he moved to Norman county and engaged in the mercantile business at Ada, remaining thus engaged until his retirement in 1914. Both he and his wife are now living at Ada. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are attendants of the services of the Lutheran church and contributors to the support of the same.

A. O. SERUM.

A. O. Serum, one of the real pioneers of Norman county, a well-to-do farmer of Halstad township, clerk of that township practically all the time since its organization, secretary of the Halstad Telephone Company ever since the organization of that company, for more than a quarter of a century secretary of the Halstad Fire Insurance Company, a member of the school board ever since his local district was organized, and in other ways prominently identified with the development of the community in which he has lived since pioneer times, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his boyhood and of Norman county since 1872, nine years before the county was organized as a separate civic entity. He was born in the parish of Selboe, in the stift of Trondhjem, February 28, 1849, a son of Ole and Annie J. (Norby) Serum, both natives of Norway, the latter of whom spent her last days in Minnesota, one of the pioneers of Norman county.

Ole Serum was a farmer in his native Norway. There he married Annie J. Norby and to that union eleven children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others living being Ingeborg, Maret, Karen, Mollie, Annie and Ole. In 1862 the elder Ole Serum was

drowned while taking part in a log drive on the river not far from his home, his body being carried over a waterfall when the log boom broke away from the drivers. Five years later, in 1867, the Widow Serum and four of her children came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Fillmore county, where she had kinsfolk living. There she remained until 1872, when she accompanied her son, A. O. Serum, up into this part of the state and settled on the homestead he took in what later came to be organized as Halstad township, Norman county, and there she spent the remainder of her life, her death occurring in 1907. She was an earnest member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and her children were reared in that faith.

A. O. Serum was eighteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his mother from his native Norway and settled in Fillmore county. For a time after his arrival there he attended school, furbishing up his limited knowledge of the English language, and even after he moved to Norman county and became a homesteader he attended school a while, perfecting himself in the tongue of his adopted country. In 1872 he left Fillmore county and came up into this part of the state, having become convinced in his own mind that here there were great opportunities awaiting the earnest young homesteader. He entered one hundred and sixty acres of land in sections 1 and 6 of what later came to be known as Halstad township and there he and his mother established their home. He drove through with a team of oxen, leading two cows and besides what essential household articles and a few farming implements could be loaded in the wagon, had practically nothing. Upon his arrival here he built on his homestead tract a house sixteen by eighteen feet and that sufficed as a home until 1896, when he built his present commodious residence. The year of his arrival here was the year of the great grasshopper scourge in this part of the state and everything that he attempted to grow during the first season of his residence here was destroyed by the pests. At that time the nearest market was at Fergus Falls, to which he made a trip that fall, the journey requiring about two weeks. After the first discouraging year, when the grasshoppers almost ate him out of house and home, Mr. Serum's affairs began to prosper and it was not long until he had his quarter section well improved and profitably cultivated. After his marriage in 1877 he further improved his home and early became regarded as one of the most forehanded and substantial pioneers of that section. As he prospered in his farming operations he gradually added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of a little more

than a half section of land, which he has improved in excellent shape and has brought the same up to a high state of cultivation.

It was in the fall of 1879 that Halstad township was organized. The following pioneers comprised the poll list of those present at the first meeting called to consider the question: A. A. Scheie, L. B. Larson, A. B. Larson, Ole Halstad, W. Christopherson, T. Stennes, Ole E. Olson and Anthony Scheie. At a later meeting held on November 6, 1879, A. O. Serum was present and helped to organize the township, being elected first clerk of the same, the other officers elected being as follow: Supervisors, J. L. Scheie, L. B. Larson and Ole E. Olson, the first named being chairman of the board; treasurer, Anthony Scheie; justices of the peace, E. L. Iverson and Ole Halstad and constables, John G. Paulson and J. L. Houske. With the exception of a period of about five years Mr. Serum has continued to serve as clerk of the township ever since that date, a record of such service probably not exceeded in this part of the state. When his local school district was organized he was elected a member of the school board and has ever since served in that capacity, having done much to advance the interests of the schools thereabout. In addition to his earnest public service Mr. Serum has been an equally earnest promoter of the general interests of the community and has done much to advance the common welfare in that part of the county. In 1904, when the Halstad Telephone Company was organized, he was elected secretary of the same and has ever since occupied that office, doing much to promote the extension of telephone service throughout this section, and for more than twenty-six years he has been secretary of the Halstad Fire Insurance Company, a mutual organization that has been of large benefit in the territory its policies cover.

In 1877 A. O. Serum was united in marriage to Anna Rustvold, who was born in Norway in 1860 and who had come to this country with her parents in the days of her girlhood, the family settling in this state, and to that union nine children were born, Mary Ann, Oliver, Anton, Joseph (deceased), Clara, Minnie, Anna Isabel, Clarence A. and Edwin (deceased). The mother of these children died in 1896. Mr. Serum is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and was one of the organizers of the local congregation, which was organized in 1875, about three years after he located here. Since the day of the organization of that congregation he has opened and closed the church services and has led the singing and has also been clerk of the congregation practically all the time since it became an organized body.

SYLVESTER JAMES JOHNSON.

Sylvester James Johnson, who owns the fine farm in Elmwood township, Clay county, developed by his late father, Sever Johnson, was born at Owatonna, in Steele county, this state, in 1881. He was but two years of age when his parents, Sever and Bertha (Johnson) Johnson, came up into this part of the state and settled on the farm on which he is still living and of which he has had practical charge since the lamented death of his father, who was killed in a railway-crossing accident at Moorhead in 1907.

Sever Johnson was born in Wisconsin, son of Louis and Dora Johnson, who had come to this country from Norway and had settled in Wisconsin, later going to Montana, afterward settling in Steele county, Minnesota. Louis Johnson was living in Montana at the time of the Indian uprising, and for the valuable service he rendered in giving warning to other settlers of the uprising, was awarded a medal by the state. Reared in Steele county, Sever Johnson was there married to Bertha Johnson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway and who had come to this country with her parents, the family first settling in Wisconsin and later coming to Minnesota. After his marriage he continued to make his home in the vicinity of Owatonna, where he was engaged in farming until 1883, in which year he came with his family up into the Red River country and located on the farm on which his son Sylvester is now living, in Elmwood township, Clay county, and proceeded to develop and improve the same, becoming the owner there of a well-improved place, comprising one-half a section of excellent land. The father was prospering in his affairs when he accidentally met his death at a railway crossing in Moorhead, as noted above. His widow is now making her home in the village of Sabin. They were the parents of three children, Dora, Teda and Sylvester J., and had besides an adopted son, Alvin.

Sylvester J. Johnson was but a child when his parents settled on the pioneer farm in Elmwood township and there he grew to manhood, becoming a practical farmer. Upon completing the course in the district school in the neighborhood of his home, he entered the high school at Moorhead. He then took a course in the State Normal School in that city and for ten years afterward was engaged in teaching school, his service in that connection being rendered in four districts, in one of which he taught for seven years. Meanwhile, he continued to be actively engaged in farming during the summers, and after his father's shocking death took charge of the home place and has since been managing the same, making a pronounced success of his opera-

tions. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Johnson gives considerable attention to the raising of potatoes and is doing well. He has an excellent farm plant and carries on his operations in accordance with approved and up-to-date methods. Though not particularly active in politics, he has held local offices and has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs.

In 1907, Sylvester J. Johnson was united in marriage to Margarette Malchosc, daughter of Hubert Malchosc and wife, of Clay county, and to this union two children have been born, sons both, Niles and Gordon. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have a very pleasant home and take a proper interest in the social affairs of the community. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Modern Brotherhood, and in the affairs of that organization takes a warm interest.

MONS T. WEUM.

Mons T. Weum, president of the State Bank of Moorhead, president of the First State Bank of South Haven and a director in several other banking concerns in this part of the state, formerly engaged in the retail clothing business at Moorhead and still the possessor of mercantile interests, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twelve years of age. He was born on March 20, 1857, a son of Tosten N. and Ingeborg Weum, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in their native land.

When he was twelve years of age, Mons T. Weum came to the United States with a brother and a sister, the three proceeding on out to Minnesota and locating in Goodhue county, where he began working on farms, later becoming a clerk in a store at Owatonna and was engaged in the latter occupation for several years, at the end of which time he started a store of his own at Norcross, in Grant county. Two years later, upon the establishment of the village of Georgetown, in Clay county, he moved to that new town and started there the first real store started in the place. His business there prospered and he still is a partner in that pioneer store, though a resident of Moorhead for the past fifteen years. It was about 1902 that Mr. Weum located at Moorhead, where he started a clothing store. He also for a time was connected with the jobbing trade at Minneapolis. In 1903, about a year after becoming a resident of Moorhead, Mr. Weum was made the president of the State Bank of Moorhead, a position he ever since has held and to the duties of which he gives his active attention. Mr. Weum has other

banking interests throughout this part of the state, including his position of president of the First State Bank of South Haven; a director of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Perley, and a director of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Steele, all three of which banks he helped to organize. Mr. Weum has long been recognized as one of the active and public-spirited business men of Moorhead and as an influential member of the Commercial Club of that city. He also gives his earnest attention to local civic affairs and is now serving as a member of the school board of his home city.

Mr. Weum is a member of the Trinity Lutheran church and takes a proper interest in church work. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, in the affairs of which he takes a warm interest, and is a member of the Minneapolis Athletic Club.

HAMILTON MEECH MUMFORD.

Hamilton Meech Mumford, cashier of the Farmers' State Bank of Glyndon and a substantial landowner in the vicinity of that thriving village, is a native of Connecticut, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was five years of age and of Clay county since the summer of 1875, his parents having been among the early pioneers of the Glyndon neighborhood. He was born at Norwich, Connecticut, February 15, 1870, son of Robert B. and Helen M. (Phillips) Mumford, both of whom also were born in Connecticut and who later became honored and influential pioneers of this section of Minnesota, the former spending his last days at Glyndon and the latter later moving to Seattle, where her last days were spent.

Robert B. Mumford, who is well remembered hereabout as one of the most potent influences in the development of this region in pioneer days, was a veteran of the Civil War, having been one of the first to respond from his home town of Bozrah, Connecticut, upon the President's call for volunteers in April, 1861, and served with a Connecticut regiment until the close of the war. Some time after the completion of his military service he married and after his marriage continued to make his home in Connecticut, a resident of Norwich, until 1872, when he came with his family to Minnesota, coming by way of Duluth, and settled on a homestead farm in the vicinity of Rochester, in Olmstead county, where he remained until the summer of 1875, when he disposed of his interests there and moved with his family to Clay county, establishing his home on a homestead tract of a quarter of a section of land

at the edge of what later came to be the village of Glyndon, and there he spent the remainder of his life, although his later business activities kept him traveling far and wide over the then rapidly developing country in this section of the Northwest. The year after his settlement at Glyndon, Robert B. Mumford imported a large herd of dairy cattle into Clay county, driving them through from Fergus Falls, and distributed the cattle among the pioneer settlers throughout the neighborhood in which he had settled and from the products of that herd there was established here in that same year the first cheese factory in the county. He also shipped in many horses from Rochester and became an extensive dealer in horses as well as in cattle. At the same time he became largely interested in real estate ventures, acting for a Minneapolis firm of realty dealers, and in that capacity did a great deal of development work, handling land throughout the Red River valley and as far west as Bismarck, with particular reference to the creation of townsites along the line of the Northern Pacific railroad, acting as land agent for the railroad company, being thus the means of inducing the immigration to this section of many settlers. On one occasion he and his wife drove all the way from Glyndon to Bismarck in a buggy, inspecting the progress of the settlements he had been instrumental in projecting. Mr. Mumford's special interest ever centered in and about Glyndon, and he did much to promote the development of that place during the early days of the settlement, continuing to make that his established home the rest of his life, his death occurring there in March, 1889. His widow survived him more than twenty-five years, her death occurring at Seattle, Washington, in May, 1916. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Arthur A., Hale H., Leonard J., Morris C. and Mary Anne, all of whom are living save the last-named, who died at the age of nine months.

As noted above, Hamilton M. Mumford was but five years of age when his parents settled at Glyndon in 1875 and he has ever since made that place his established home, though six years of his life were spent in developing a couple of sections of land in Canada. Reared at Glyndon, he received his early schooling in the schools of that village and supplemented the same by a course in the State Normal School at Moorhead, from which he was graduated in 1894. In the meantime he had taught several terms of school and after his graduation taught two more terms of school. He then became connected with an agricultural implement house and for ten years thereafter was "on the road" for that concern, meanwhile, however, continuing to make his home at Glyndon, he having married in 1902. Upon leaving the road Mr.

Mumford bought a couple of sections of land in Canada and for six years was engaged in developing the same, his family spending two summers with him there. He still holds and operates his Canada land, as well as the quarter section homestead farm entered by his father at Glyndon in 1875 and on which he has founded a herd of Shorthorn cattle; he and his family being very comfortably situated in a home in the village, where he is active in the bank work. In January, 1917, Mr. Mumford and others organized the Farmers State Bank of Glyndon and Mr. Mumford was made cashier of the same, a position he now occupies and to the duties of which he is giving his most earnest and intelligent attention.

On September 20, 1902, Hamilton M. Mumford was united in marriage to Anna Osborne, daughter of Luther Osborne and wife, further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume, and to this union four sons have been born, Leonard Phillips, Kenneth Osborne, Ralph Vernon and Luther. Mr. and Mrs. Mumford are members of the church at Glyndon and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other neighborhood good works and in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful in promoting all agencies designed to advance the common welfare thereabout.

J. FRIDLUND.

J. Fridlund was born in Sweden in 1853, a son of C. M. Fridlund, and a brother of Adolph Fridlund, whose personal sketch appears in another place in this work.

J. Fridlund received his elementary education in the common schools of Sweden. He came to America in 1874 and located in Goodhue county, Minnesota. From 1875 to 1878 he attended Augustana College, at Rock Island, Illinois; also attended the high school at Red Wing, Minnesota. In 1881 he located at Fargo, North Dakota, where he was engaged in the flour and feed business for about four years, and has been buying grain since that time. For the last six years he has been manager of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Hawley, Minnesota.

Mr. Fridlund was married to Matilda Samuelson in 1880, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Minnie, who married C. A. Bye, a general merchant at Pine Wood, Minnesota; Ruth, who is attending the normal school at Mankato, Minnesota; and Carl, who is attending Gus-

tavus College, at St. Peter, Minnesota. Mr. Fridlund is a student and well-read man and is giving his children the advantage of a good education. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a member of the Masonic Lodge, in both of which he takes a deep interest.

THEODORE H. SKREI.

Theodore H. Skrei, a substantial and progressive farmer, engaged in raising blooded Holstein cattle, former township treasurer and former clerk of the school board, is a native son of Minnesota, born on Buffalo River on December 15, 1870, the first white child born here, a son of Norwegian parents, who were married in their native land before coming to America. He is the son of Targe T. and Gunhild (Berve) Skrei, the former of whom was born in 1836 and the latter ten years later.

Targe T. Skrei was educated in the schools of Norway and grew up to the work of the farm. He was married in that country to Gunhild Berve, who was born in 1846 in Norway, and in 1866 they decided to try their fortunes in the new world, where so many of their countrymen had found a home and an ample means of living. On arriving in this country they came on to Houston county, Minnesota, where they remained for four years. Targe T. Skrei then moved west, joining a party, the journey being made by ox-team, and came to Clay county, where he homesteaded the southwest quarter of section 28, Moland township, and on that place he immediately began farming operations and was thus engaged for the remainder of his active life, being regarded as a hard-working and skillful agriculturist, popular with his friends and neighbors. He died in 1895 at the age of fifty-nine years and his wife survived until 1908, when her death occurred at the age of sixty-two. Targe T. Skrei and wife were the parents of the following children: Signa, who is living with Hilbert; Theodore H., the subject of this sketch, and Hilbert, who is married. Targe T. Skrei took a good citizen's part in public affairs, but never sought office.

Theodore H. Skrei attended the public schools of Clay county and was reared on his father's farm, where he became a valuable assistant in the work of improving and developing the holding. At the age of twenty-one he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 29, Moland township, which he improved and now has in an excellent state of cultivation. In 1909 he bought out the old homestead and four years later, in 1913, he



THEODORE H. SKIFF AND FAMILY



SKREI FARM HOME.

bought an additional eighty acres in section 29, and is now the owner of four hundred acres of prime land, from which he is obtaining most satisfactory results, the land being set out to wheat, barley, oats, corn, alfalfa and potatoes. He raises a fine strain of blooded Holstein cattle and has some splendid specimens of that breed on his place. In 1912 Mr. Skrei built a nine-room house, fitted with all modern requirements, including electric light, waterworks, hot-water heat, etc., and here he and his family are comfortably situated.

On September 27, 1897, at Moorhead, Theodore H. Skrei was united in marriage to Tilda Juve, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1867, a daughter of Ole and Gunhild Juve, who came to Clay county in the early seventies. Mr. and Mrs. Skrei are the parents of four children, namely: Anna, Obert, Milo and Targe. They are also providing a home for Robert and Nellie Olson, children of Mrs. Skrei's sister, the latter and her husband being both deceased, the children having been living with Mr. and Mrs. Skrei for the past five years.

Mr. Skrei and family are members of the Concordia church, of which he has been trustee and in connection with which he has held other offices. He has been identified with public affairs for several years and served the people as township treasurer, in which responsible position he gave general satisfaction. He was clerk to the school board for six years, proving a satisfactory official. He is interested in the Farmers' Grain and Lumber Company of Glyndon, to the affairs of which he gives close attention. Mr. Skrei's life has been one of usefulness and hard work and proves again that being born in a log house with a sod roof is no barrier to progress.

CHARLES R. OLIVER.

Charles R. Oliver, former cashier of the First National Bank at Barnesville, Clay county, and now president of that flourishing institution, an extensive landowner, his land holdings amounting to four thousand acres, was born in the state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of this part of Minnesota for the past twenty-six years. He was born in August, 1860, in Grant county, Wisconsin, a son of Douglas and Sarah (Fitzgerald) Oliver, whose last days were spent in Kansas.

Douglas Oliver was born in Tennessee in 1819 and died in 1885, at the age of sixty-six years. During his active life he was a well-known woolen

manufacturer, having a large mill for that purpose, and he also farmed on an extensive scale, in Grant county, Wisconsin. Some years before his death he moved to Kansas and there spent his last days. His wife, Sarah Fitzgerald, was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, in 1834 and died one year after her husband, her death occurring in 1886, in Kansas at the age of fifty-two. They were the parents of the following children: Frank, living in Santa Cruz, California; Dwight, married and living in Lancaster, Wisconsin; Grant, married, lives in Dinuba, California; Fred, in Fresno, California; Charles R., the subject of this sketch, and Mrs. Harriet Mullen, of Tempe, Arizona.

Charles R. Oliver was educated in the schools of Grant county, Wisconsin, and was reared on his father's farm, with the work of which he assisted during a few of his early years. His business inclinations led him to follow the profession of a banker and before coming to Clay county he was associated with the First National Bank of Breckenridge. In 1891 he moved to Clay county and became assistant cashier in the First National Bank at Barnesville and has served through all the departments and official positions of the bank's service, for the past three years being president of the company. Much of the success of the institution is traceable to Mr. Oliver's sound and conservative methods of banking and he is generally regarded as one of the far-seeing bankers in this part of the state. In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Oliver is the owner of four thousand acres of land located in Clay and Wilkin counties, the greater part being in Wilkin. His farming is carried on according to modern methods of agriculture and he is fully abreast in the equipment of his farms, everything being maintained in first-class condition, the improvements being fully equal to the best in the county. He also owns business property in the town of Barnesville and is generally accounted one of the most prosperous and enterprising citizens of the township and county.

In April, 1898, Charles R. Oliver was united in marriage to Mary E. McGinn, who was born in Blooming Prairie, Minnesota, the marriage taking place in Barnesville. There are no children to this union. Mr. Oliver takes an active part in the general social conditions of the township and has long been holding membership in various fraternal organizations. He is a member of the Masonic lodge at Barnesville and Shrine at Fargo, the Knights of Pythias and Modern Woodmen of America, and has a warm interest in the successful working of these popular organizations. Mr. Oliver, however, devotes the greater part of his business life to his banking interests.

D. C. JONES.

D. C. Jones, one of the best-known and most substantial figures in financial circles of this part of the state, president of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Ada, president of the First State Bank of Gary and president of the First State Bank at Lockhart, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, born at Cambria, in Columbia county, that state, August 23, 1866, son of Morris and Margaret (Jones) Jones, natives of the principality of Wales, whose last days were spent in the neighboring state of South Dakota.

Morris Jones was reared in his native Wales, where he received his schooling, and about 1840 came to the United States with his father, John Jones, the family settling in Racine, Wisconsin. There he presently became engaged as a contractor and builder and later moved to Cambridge, that same state, where he remained until 1880, when he moved with his family to Brown county, South Dakota, about one hundred miles ahead of the railroad, and settled on a homestead farm there. He later entered a tree claim to an adjoining quarter section, proved up the same, and on that half-section farm spent the rest of his life, bringing his place up to an excellent state of development. Morris Jones and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born, the others being as follow: Mary, wife of Hugh Pugh; Sarah, wife of Owen Evans; John, of Aberdeen, South Dakota, and Susie, wife of T. A. Jones.

D. C. Jones was about fourteen years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to Brown county, South Dakota, and he grew to manhood on the homestead farm in that county, completing his schooling at Groton College at Groton, South Dakota, and at Carlton College at Northfield, this state. Upon leaving school he became engaged as a grain buyer for the St. Anthony & Dakota Elevator Company and was thus engaged in his home state for eight years, or until 1894, when he was transferred to Minnesota and given charge of that company's business at Ada. In 1900 Mr. Jones was made cashier of the First State Bank at Gary, in Norman county, and for eleven years was in charge of that bank's affairs, in 1911 returning to Ada, where he engaged in the banking and real-estate business and where he since has made his home. Mr. Jones retained his interest in the First State Bank of Gary and is now president of the same, as well as president of the First State Bank at Lockhart, a flourishing village in the northern part of the county. In 1915 Mr. Jones and Lambert Roesch organized the Farmers

and Merchants Bank at Ada and Mr. Jones is president of the same. In addition to his extensive banking interests he also is the owner of some valuable land in Norman county and in South Dakota. Mr. Jones is a Republican and has ever given his earnest attention to local political affairs. He is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. When the village of Gary was organized he was elected treasurer of the same and served in that capacity until he left there. He also for some time served as president of the village council and was also for some time the president of the village school board.

In October, 1897, D. C. Jones was united in marriage to Clara Pfund, daughter of John Pfund and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Beatrice, Lawrence and Deveraux, the latter of whom died in childhood. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have a very peasant home at Ada and take a proper interest in the general social activities of the city, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the general welfare hereabout.

ARNT AND ANTON OPGRAND

Arnt and Anton Opgrand, general merchants at Halstad, doing business there under the firm style of Opgrand Brothers, have been residents of Norman county since the days of their boyhood, having come here with their parents in pioneer days, and are active and energetic members of the business community in the flourishing village in which they are conducting their well-stocked mercantile establishment. They are the sons of M. A. Opgrand, one of the pioneers of Norman county, who settled in Halstad township back in the early eighties and is still living there, one of the substantial and well-to-do farmers of that part of the county.

M. A. Opgrand was born in Norway on April 8, 1847, and there spent his youth and young manhood, being about twenty years of age when he came to this country in 1867 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Houston county. There he married Joran Nelson, who was born in Norway on January 16, 1856, and who had come to Minnesota with her parents in the days of her girlhood. After his marriage Mr. Opgrand continued to make his home in Houston county until the early eighties, when he came up to this part of the state with his family and settled on an eighty-acre farm which he bought in Shelly township, Norman county, on the line adjoining Halstad township. In 1893 he bought a quarter of a section in

section 5 of Halstad township, adjoining his eighty in Shelly, sold the eighty and established his home in Halstad township. To the quarter section he bought at that time he later added an adjoining quarter and now owns a half section of well-improved land in Halstad township, where he still lives and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There are nine of these children, Arnt, Anton, Anna, Pedra, Clara, Pauline, Ole, Carl and James, all of whom are living.

Arnt Opgrand was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, over the line from Houston county, this state, August 24, 1874, and was eight or ten years of age when his parents moved from the latter county up into this part of the state and settled in Norman county. He received his elementary schooling in the district schools of Halstad township and supplemented the same by a course in Concordia College at Moorhead, after which he resumed his place on the home farm and there remained until 1900, when he began clerking in the hardware store of J. H. Nokken at Halstad and was thus engaged for two years, at the end of which time he transferred his services to the Halstad Mercantile Company and was engaged as a clerk for that concern for three years. He then worked a year in the general store of Iver Lien at Halstad and then he and his brother, Anton, went over into North Dakota and each homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Adams county, that state. A year later they returned to Minnesota and Arnt Opgrand resumed his former position in the store of Iver Lien at Halstad, where he worked a year, at the end of which time he returned to the store of the Halstad Mercantile Company and was there engaged until in May, 1912, when he and his brother, Anton, started in the mercantile business on their own account at Halstad and have ever since been thus engaged, having a well-equipped and well-stocked general store, and have built up an extensive trade in the village and throughout the surrounding country. In addition to his mercantile interest, Arnt Opgrand is the owner of a potato warehouse, which he has operated for the past four years. He has served as a member of the village council and has for years taken an earnest interest in local civic affairs. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and is clerk of the same.

In 1904 Arnt Opgrand was united in marriage to Emma Larson, a daughter of Ole Larson, and to this union three children have been born, Judith, Evalyn and Milburn. Mr. and Mrs. Opgrand are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church affairs.

Anton Opgrand was born in Houston county, this state, September 14,

1876, and was but a boy when his parents settled in Norman county. Upon completing the course in the district schools of Halstad township he entered the normal school at Minneapolis and later took a course in a business college in that city. In the spring of 1907 he and his brother each homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Adams county, North Dakota, and a year later returned to this state. Anton Opgrand then went to Minneapolis, where for three years he was employed in the wholesale mercantile establishment of Wyman & Partridge. On May 15, 1912, he and his brother, Arnt, opened their mercantile establishment at Halstad, as above set out, and have since been very successfully engaged in business together. In addition to his mercantile interests, Anton Opgrand is the owner of a farm of eighty acres in Cass county, this state. He is a member of the local society of the Sons of Norway and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

On January 1, 1915, Anton Opgrand was united in marriage to Olga Stordahl, a daughter of Carl Stordahl. Mr. and Mrs. Opgrand are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of the same. The Opgrand brothers are energetic and enterprising business men and are doing well their part in the promotion of the best interests of the community in which they live.

E. C. BETCHER.

E. C. Betcher, manager of the plant of the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada, member of the city council and a substantial landowner and retired farmer of Norman county, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his childhood and of Norman county since the days of his young manhood, having settled here with his parents in pioneer days. He was born on January 22, 1858, and was but four years of age when his parents, John and Ernestine (Tobranz) Betcher, also natives of that country and the former of whom was a weaver, left Germany many years ago and came to the United States in 1862 and settled in Goodhue county, this state, not far from the city of Red Wing.

Upon his arrival in Goodhue county John Betcher homesteaded an eighty-acre tract there and proceeded to develop the same, making his home there until 1880, when he disposed of his interests in that county to advantage and came up into this part of the state, pre-empting a quarter

of a section of land in what later came to be organized as Green Meadow township, Norman county, and there established his second and final home in the land of his adoption. Mr. Betcher developed a good farm in Green Meadow township and took an active part in the affairs of that township in pioneer days. There he spent his last days. He and his wife have both passed away. They were members of the German Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were seven of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Robert, Lena, Arthur, Richard (deceased), Fred and Charles.

As noted above, E. C. Betcher was but a child when he came to this state with his parents and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Goodhue county, receiving his schooling in the schools of Red Wing. Being the eldest son he was a valuable aid to his father in the labors of developing the homestead farm, even from the days of his boyhood, and when the family moved to Norman county he aided his father in the initial development of the new farm here, being thus occupied until his marriage in 1886, when he started farming on his own account in Pleasant View township, where he established his home and where he remained until 1898, at the time of the organization of the Farmers Elevator Company, when he was elected manager of the same and in order to give his whole attention to the affairs of that company moved to Ada, the site of the elevator, where he since has made his home. Mr. Betcher continues to retain his farm lands, however, and is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Pleasant View township, one of the best-improved farms in that part of the county. Mr. Betcher has made a distinct success of the affairs of the Farmers Elevator Company and is widely recognized as one of the leading men in this section of the state. He has done much to advance the general interests of the county seat and of the county at large and has long been regarded as one of Norman county's most substantial and influential citizens. For nine years he has been a member of the Ada city council and in that capacity has rendered excellent service in helping to "boost" the county seat into its present high place among the flourishing little cities of northern Minnesota.

It was in 1886 that E. C. Betcher was united in marriage to Minnie Mackel, daughter of Ignatius Mackel and wife, and to this union five children have been born, Alfred, Ida, Walter, Raymond and Ervin. Capt. Alfred Betcher, first-born of Mr. and Mrs. Betcher's sons, is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point and is now a captain in the United States regular army. Mr. and Mrs. Betcher are members of the Congregational church at Ada and take a proper interest in church work and

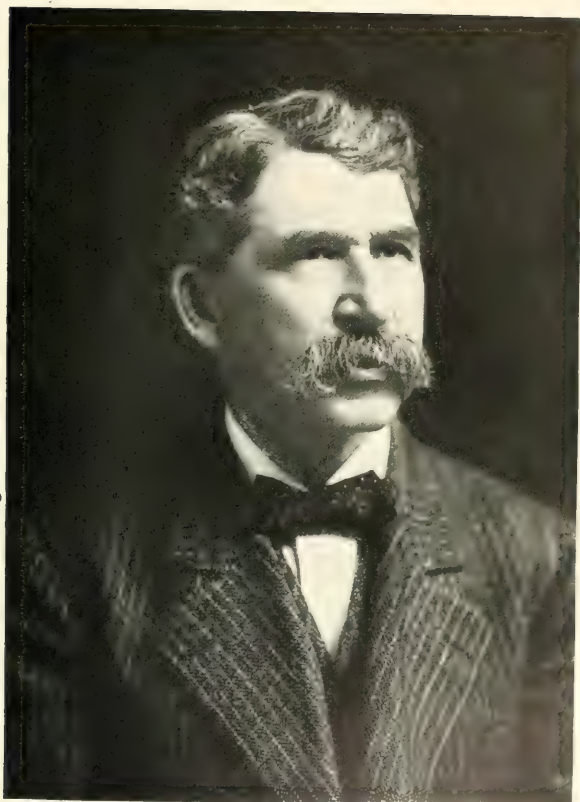
in the general good works of the community, helpful in promoting all worthy causes. Mr. Betcher is a Republican and has ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

W. H. DAVY.

W. H. Davy, former mayor and one of the most substantial citizens of Moorhead, was born in Bath, Ontario, Canada, June 19, 1844, a son of William H. Davy and Sarah M. (Perry) Davy, both of whom were born in Ontario, Canada. William H. Davy was a shipbuilder in Bath, Ontario, and lived there practically all his life. He was the father of three children: Sarah Minerva, Mary Perry and W. H. Mr. Davy, Sr., was a member of the Episcopal church.

W. H. Davy was educated in the public schools of Bath, Ontario, Canada, where he spent his early years. During the Civil War he came to Chicago, Illinois, and lived there until the close of the war and then returned to Canada. In 1869 he came again to this country and located in Duluth, Minnesota, where he remained for about three years. About 1872 he came to Moorhead and spent one winter, and in the following year he came here to live and has since made this his home. For the first three or four years after coming here he was employed as bookkeeper and cashier for the firm of Brunes & Finkle, and also was agent for the American Express Company. At that time express matter was carried by a stage line running from Breckinridge by way of Moorhead, to Minneapolis, also from Moorhead to Ft. Gary. Following this employment Mr. Davy was for several years engaged in the grocery business. Later he started in the grain, flour, building-material and fuel business, in partnership with F. Goodsell, under the firm name of W. H. Davy & Company. After about eight or nine years in that business Mr. Davy retired from active management and left the business in the hands of Mr. Goodsell, his partner.

For the past thirty years Mr. Davy has been interested in farming and has large land investments. He now owns about three sections of land in Clay county and carries on farming on an extensive scale. His time for the past eleven or twelve years has been mostly occupied in superintending his farms. In 1914 he had a patch of potatoes within the city limits, adjoin-



W. H. DAVY.

ing the Normal School grounds, on which was produced over fifteen thousand bushels of potatoes.

For the last twenty-five years Mr. Davy has spent most of his winters in Florida or California and has thus been able to escape the rigor of Minnesota winters. He is among the wealthiest farmers in the state, yet he is very unpretentious and lives in Moorhead in a modest way. He is a member of the Episcopal church of Moorhead and has served for many years as warden in that church. He served several years as county commissioner of Clay county, and was chairman of that board for several years. He served two terms as mayor of Moorhead.

Mr. Davy is one of the living pioneers of Moorhead and is still one of the citizens of the town who is actively interested in public affairs.

ERNEST POEHLIS.

Ernest Poehls, proprietor of a well-kept farm of two hundred and sixty acres just north of the village of Sabin, in Elmwood township, Clay county, former constable for that township and former supervisor of highways in his district, was born in Scott county, Iowa, November 23, 1876, son of Chris and Elizabeth (Krabbenhoft) Poehls, who became residents of Clay county in 1883 and are still living, prominent and influential residents of Elmwood township.

Both Chris Poehls and his wife are of European birth, natives of Schleswig-Holstein, who came to this country in 1866, settling with their respective families in Scott county, Iowa, where they were married in 1868 and where they remained, engaged in farming, until the latter part of 1883, when they came to Minnesota and established their home in Clay county, arriving at their new home there on December 10 of that year. Chris Poehls had bought a farm in Elmwood township, during the previous summer, and came well-equipped for successful farming. As he prospered in his operations, he gradually added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of eleven hundred and fifty-three acres of excellent land. Despite the fact that he is now past seventy-five years of age, he is still hale and hearty and continues to give his active attention to the general direction of his extensive farming interests. During eight years of his residence in Iowa, Mr. Poehls was supervisor of roads in his home district, and, since taking up his resi-

dence in Minnesota, also has given considerable attention to general local affairs, one of his active business connections being with the local telephone company. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were twelve of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth; the others being: Eureka, Minnie, Henry, Emma, John, Laura (deceased), Hulda, Fred (deceased), Emil, Lena and Anna.

Ernest Poehls was but seven years of age when he came to Minnesota from Iowa with his parents in 1883, and he completed his schooling in the Sabin schools. From the days of his boyhood, he was an active assistant to his father and brothers in the labors of developing and improving the home place in Elmwood township, and he remained at home, thus engaged, until his marriage, in the fall of 1904. He then engaged in farming on his own account, establishing his home on the farm on which he is still living, in that same township, just north of Sabin, and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Mr. Poehls is the owner of a well-developed farm of two hundred and sixty acres, and has an excellent farm plant. He has erected good buildings on his place and carries on his operations in up-to-date fashion. Upon taking possession of that farm, he planted a good-sized grove which is now well developed, a very attractive feature of his farm. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Poehls has given considerable attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and is successful in this enterprise. He gives close attention to local civic affairs and has served his community in the capacity of constable and as "road boss."

In the fall of 1904 Ernest Poehls was united in marriage to Mary Mickelsen, who was born in the vicinity of her present home, in Elmwood township, daughter of Jens and Sophia (Wright) Mickelsen, early settlers in that neighborhood, the former of whom spent his last days there. Jens Mickelsen was born in Denmark and came to this country in the days of his young manhood. He came on out into the Northwest and for some time was engaged as a freighter out of Fargo, hauling to points along the then frontier as far north as one hundred and twenty miles and more. He married, after coming to this country, and in 1879 homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Elmwood township, Clay county, where he established his home and where he spent the remainder of his life, one of the substantial and influential pioneers of that neighborhood. His widow is now living at Sabin. They were the parents of seven children, of whom Mrs. Poehls was the first-born; the others being: William, Andrew, Martin, Matilda and George.

To Ernest and Mary (Mickelsen) Poehls five children have been born: Argan, Calvin, Harold, Ethel and Vivian. Mr. and Mrs. Poehls are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other local good works and the general social activities of the community, of which they have been residents since the days of their childhood, and which they have seen develop from its pioneer state to its present high stage of development and cultivation.

WILLIAM H. FERRIS.

William H. Ferris, the proprietor of a fine farm of five hundred and sixty acres in Elmwood township, Clay county, and the owner also of a tract of three quarters of a section of land down the river in Wilkin county in the neighborhood of Kent, and long recognized as one of the most substantial farmers in the Sabin neighborhood, is a native of Ireland. He has made his home on this side of the water since he was twelve or thirteen years of age, and in Minnesota since 1880, having come down here from Canada in that year, and has therefore been a witness to, and a participant in, the development of this region since pioneer days. He was born in County Down, Ireland, September 22, 1862, son of William and Eliza Jane (Beggs) Ferris, both born in that same county, and the former of whom died when his son was a mere child. His widow later, about 1865, emigrated to Canada, where she married again, later coming to Minnesota and is now making her home at Minneapolis.

Having been left fatherless when little more than an infant, and his mother later leaving Ireland, William H. Ferris was reared by his grandmother Beggs in County Down, and, in 1875, came with her to this side of the water, locating in Canada. In July, 1880, William H. Ferris came down from Canada with his uncle, Henry Beggs, who homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Elmwood township, Clay county, and there established his home. William H. Ferris gave his active assistance to the labors of improving and developing that farm and, upon the death of his uncle in 1887, bought the place, and continued the work of improvement. In the meantime, his grandmother Beggs had come down here from Canada and he cared for her in her declining years, her death occurring at his home some years later. Mr. Ferris prospered in his farming operations and gradually increased his land holdings until his home farm now comprises five

hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, well improved and profitably cultivated. In addition to this farm, Mr. Ferris is the owner of three-quarters of a section in the neighborhood of Kent, down in Wilkin county, and is regarded as being quite well circumstanced. He is a member of the local school board and is interested in the Northwestern Hospital at Moorhead.

In November, 1890, William H. Ferris was united in marriage to Nellie Nolan, daughter of William Nolan and wife, of Wilkin county, and to this union five children have been born, Thomas, May, William, Alfred and Cecelia. The Ferrises have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social affairs of the community. They are members of the Catholic church at Sabin, Minnesota, and take a proper interest in the parish affairs.

DR. JAMES S. BURRILL.

Dr. James S. Burrill a progressive young dentist of Ulen, Clay county, was born in Keene township, Clay county, July 27, 1892, a son of H. R. and Harriet (McDonald) Burrill, the former of whom is now a well-known dealer in farming implements in Hawley, this county. H. R. Burrill was born on September 19, 1858, in Fitzwilliam, of the Granite state, a son of Jacob Burrill, who was born in 1818 and died in 1891. The father of James Burrill was educated in the common schools of Keene, his native state of New Hampshire, and in 1876 he began working in a store at Dana, Massachusetts. In the spring of 1878, he came to Hawley, Minnesota, and, soon after arriving in Clay county, took up a homestead in Keene township which he developed into a good farm. He and Lewis Smith were among the earliest pioneers in Keene township, breaking the first sod in this vicinity with ox-teams. He remained on the old homestead until 1897, when he sold the same and bought another farm in section 10, one and one-half miles west of the village of Hawley, where he lived until 1907. In that year, he moved to Hawley and formed a partnership with Hans Rushfeldt in the machine business. In 1912, his son, Robert, bought out the interest of Mr. Rushfeldt, and formed a partnership with his father. The new firm is located in a large and modernly-equipped implement store, where they handle an extensive stock of all kinds of farming machinery. On April 19, 1885, H. R. Burrill was married to Harriet McDonald, a daughter of John McDonald,

and to their union the following children have been born: Robert H., who is in business with his father; Dan W., who married Fannie Skinner and who died by accidental asphyxiation on April 28, 1910; Henry, Allen, Leola, an adopted child, and James S., the subject of this review.

James S. Burrill received his elementary education in the public schools of Hawley, graduating from the high school of that place in 1910. He then entered the University of Minnesota, where he spent one year, pursuing the agricultural course of study. In the years, 1911 and 1912, he was engaged in teaching at Velva, North Dakota, and in the fall of 1912, he returned to the state university and took a course in dentistry, which he completed, graduating in 1915. He then engaged in the practice of his profession at Hawley, remaining there until the spring of 1916, when he came to Ulen and opened an office as a dentist and has been here ever since.

Dr. Burrill was married in 1914 to Edna Rapp, daughter of Louis Rapp, of Minneapolis. They have one child, Herman Robert James. They are members of the Congregational church.

Dr. Burrill is a member of the Masonic Lodge and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Being very wide-awake and progressive in his profession, Dr. Burrill is a member of the Crookston District, the state and the National dental associations. He is also a member of the Psi Phi dental fraternity.

JOHN A. BACKMAN.

John A. Backman, a farmer of Eglon township, Clay county, was born, April 2, 1852, in Sweden. He is a son of Andrus and Kajsa (Swenson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home on a farm, and there the father died at the early age of thirty-three years, when his son John was only eight months old. The mother was married a second time, her last husband being Andrew Berg, who immigrated with her to America in 1881. They located in Highland Grove township, Clay county, on a farm in section 36, and there the death of Mr. Berg occurred in the summer of 1916, having survived his wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, whose death occurred there in the autumn of 1914 at the advanced age of ninety-one years. She had only the one child, John A., by her first marriage, and four children by her second marriage, namely, Gust, who is farming in Highland Grove township; Mary, deceased; Hannah,

a widow, living in Detroit, Minnesota; and Sarah, the wife of the chief of police of Fargo, North Dakota.

James A. Backman spent his boyhood in Sweden where he attended the common schools. He immigrated to America, when a young man, and first worked two months on the Northern Pacific railroad in Minnesota, then three months on the Stillwater railroad, which extended from White Burr Lake to Stillwater, this state. After spending the winter of 1870-71 in St. Paul, he went to St. Cloud, where he took the stage for Crowing, and from there walked for three days to a place eighteen miles east of the present village of Perham, where he worked until April, 1871. At that time he came to Becker county, locating on a farm, but later settled on land in sections 6 and 1, Eglon township, Clay county, on his uncle's claim. Two of his uncles had come with him to America and had at once taken up claims in Minnesota. In 1876, Mr. Backman homesteaded eighty acres in section 2, Eglon township. He later bought forty acres more in section 11, Eglon township, and subsequently another forty in section 3, Eglon township. He now owns a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He has continued to reside on the same claim that he took up over forty years ago, and has made all improvements, including a good home and numerous outbuildings, and is making a success as a general farmer and stock raiser.

On January 16, 1880, Mr. Burns was married to Mary Nelson, who was born in Sweden, January 24, 1861, and there she grew up and attended school. She came to America in 1873 with her parents. After her father had worked in the mines of the iron district of Michigan for some time, he came to Eglon township, Clay county, Minnesota, and established the family home on a farm in section 8, where his death occurred in 1899. His widow is still living in this township at the unusual age of ninety-seven years.

To John A. Backman and wife, nine children were born, namely: Minnie, who is married and lives in Vale, Minnesota; Ida, who works in Fargo, North Dakota; Fretiof, who works in Lake Park, Minnesota; Matilda, who lives at home and is a school teacher; Olga, living at Dilworth, Minnesota, in the employ of the Northern Pacific railroad; Kail, who operates the home farm; Hulda, Henry and August, all of whom are living on the home place in Eglon township and assisting their parents with the general work on the farm.

Politically, Mr. Backman is an Independent Democrat. He was a member of the township board of Eglon township for ten or eleven years, and was clerk of the school board for a twelve-year period. He was one of the organ-

izers of the Lake Parke Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He is a member, also formerly a trustee, of the Swedish Lutheran church, the plans for the church edifice of which he drafted, the same being accepted by the congregation.

GARFIELD H. RUSTAD.

Garfield H. Rustad, a well-known young attorney-at-law, with offices at Moorhead, city attorney there and former president of the Moorhead Commercial Club, was born in the neighboring state of North Dakota, but has lived in Moorhead since the days of his boyhood. He was born at Larimore, North Dakota, in 1887, son of August J. and Thea (Thorson) Rustad, who later became residents of Moorhead, where their last days were spent.

August J. Rustad was born in the kingdom of Norway and lived there until he was grown, when he came to this county and located in Larimore, North Dakota, where he presently became engaged in the clothing business, remaining there for some years, at the end of which time he moved to Grand Forks, in that same state, engaging there in the same line of business, afterward coming over into Minnesota and locating at Moorhead, where he engaged in business and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. His wife's parents, Ole Thorson and wife, also spent their last days in Moorhead, at which place they had settled shortly after the laying out of the town, having located there straightway upon their arrival in this country from Norway, of which country they were natives. Ole Thorson was engaged in the flour-milling business at Moorhead and was one of the best-known and most active among the pioneer residents of that city. He died about fifteen years after locating there. August J. Rustad and wife were the parents of three sons, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being Oscar and Fred.

Garfield H. Rustad was but a child when his parents located at Moorhead and he finished his course in the common schools there. Upon graduating from the high school at that place in 1905 he entered the law department of the University of Minnesota and was graduated from that institution in 1908, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. For two years after his admission to the bar Mr. Rustad was engaged in the office of the county attorney at Moorhead, N. I. Johnson being county attorney at that time, and since then has been maintaining an office of his own and has acquired a fine practice. In 1911 Mr. Rustad was elected city attorney and has since been

serving in that capacity, giving his earnest attention to local civic affairs. He also has given his close personal attention to the general affairs of his home town and during the year 1916 served as president of the Moorhead Commercial Club, doing much in that time to promote the general interests of the city.

On January 1, 1913, Garfield H. Rustad was united in marriage to Agnes E. Madsen, of Fargo. Mr. and Mrs. Rustad are members of the Episcopal church and take a warm interest in the general good works of their home town. Mr. Rustad is a Mason and a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Royal League, and in the affairs of all these organizations takes a warm interest.

JOHN MARTH.

John Marth, well-known and well-to-do retired farmer and an honored veteran of the Civil War, throughout which he had seen much service, was born in Germany, but has been a resident of this country for sixty years, having come to the United States in 1857. He was born on June 6, 1837, the only son of George and Sophia (Hohman) Marth, also born in the Fatherland and who spent all their lives in that country.

George Marth was born in Germany in February, 1793, and was educated in the schools of his native land, where he followed the occupation of a farmer during all his active years. He died in the old country in 1876, having reached the advanced age of eighty-three years. He was twice married, his second wife being Sophia Hohman, who was born in Germany in 1814, and who died at the early age of twenty-nine years, in 1843. They were the parents of two children, Elizabeth Keiser, who lives in Delano, Minnesota, and John, the subject of this sketch.

John Marth was educated in the schools of Germany and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the agricultural labors up to the age of nineteen, when he immigrated to America, arriving in this country in 1857. He engaged in farming, at which he continued for a few years, and some six months after the Civil War began, he enlisted on October 4, 1861, and served to the end of the war. He enlisted at Ft. Snelling, Minnesota, and saw service in the battle of Shiloh and at the siege of Corinth, at the end of which engagement he followed General Price through Tennessee and Mem-



MR. AND MRS. JOHN MARTH.

phis. He was also at the battle and siege of Vicksburg. He re-enlisted at the end of the first term and was with Sherman's army on the march to the sea. At the end of the conflict between the states he was honorably discharged at Ft. Snelling on June 1, 1865, having served three years and nine months on behalf of the Union cause. He was in ten battles and was never captured, nor did he receive any wound.

Following his discharge from the army, Mr. Marth engaged in the mercantile business in Wright county, this state, and continued in same until 1877, when he moved to Barnesville, Clay county, and built a store and stocked it with a full line of general merchandise, his venture in this line proving very successful. In 1908 he sold out the stock, but still retains the ownership of the building. In 1877 he had homesteaded a quarter section of land in section 18, Humboldt township, and continued to operate it for twenty-one years, selling out in 1899. About 1891 he bought a quarter section in section 18, Barnesville township, which he still retains, and is now the owner of six hundred and eighty acres in all. Mr. Marth carried out many valuable improvements on his holdings and during his active life on the land he was regarded as one of the most substantial farmers in that part of the township.

In June, 1867, John Marth was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Klement, who was born in Germany on February 15, 1851, and who came to America four years later, in 1855. The marriage took place in Wright county, Minnesota, and the following children were born: Mrs. Mathilda Englis, deceased; Sophia, at home; Amanda, deceased; John, who is now managing his father's farming interests; Rosa, a clerk at Frazee, Minnesota, and Mrs. Alvina Partridge, who lives at Dodge Center, this state. The senior John Marth, notwithstanding his extensive mercantile and land operations, found time to devote to matters connected with the civic affairs of the township. He was president of the township board of the village of Barnesville for several years, and at a later time, when the place was incorporated, he was alderman of the city of Barnesville, and in these representative positions he gave general satisfaction to the public. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and in that organization continues to take a warm interest. Mr. Marth is now living retired at Barnesville, and has reached ten years beyond the allotted span of three-score and ten years, still vigorous in mind and body.

The junior John Marth is now carrying on the farming operations since his father's retirement. He had been living in Canada, where he was engaged in farming, and sold his land there in 1916 and returned to the old

farm, which he is now managing very successfully. He carries on general farming and raises mule-foot hogs, and is doing very well. He was married to Ida Nelson on December 28, 1898, and they are parents of one child, a daughter, Winifred, now three years old.

An interesting item in connection with the Marth family on the female side is worth recording. Rosalia Zieberth, grandmother of Wilhelmina Klement, who became the wife of John Marth, Sr., was the third white woman to cross Crow river from Wright county, Minnesota.

JOHN OSS.

John Oss, an inventor now living in Hitterdal, Clay county, was born in Norderhow, Ringerike, Norway, September 25, 1845, a son of Nels Paulson and Kari Ellinger, both natives of Norway. The father was a farmer in Norway and spent his entire life in that country. He was the father of five children, namely: Paul, Martin, Thomas, John, the subject of this review, and Nels.

John Oss, who was a sergeant in the Norwegian army, received there his education, passing his examination in the higher studies with honors. In 1882, he came to America and located in Atlanta township, Becker county, Minnesota, and engaged in farming. In 1886, he came to Keene township, Clay county, and took up a homestead consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, where he built a house and other buildings, making this home until about 1896. In that year he returned to Atlanta township, Becker county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of eighty acres, which he later sold, and then bought another tract of one hundred and sixty acres in the same township. He lived on this farm and engaged in general farming until 1914, when he sold out and removed to Hitterdal, Clay county, where he has since resided.

For fourteen years, while living in Becker county, Mr. Oss was county surveyor, and, being of an inventive turn of mind, worked out several improvements on surveyors' leveling rods and computing machines, at his spare time. He was for twenty years a member of the school board, and for two years assessor of Atlanta township. While living in Keene township, Clay county, he served as chairman of the school board of that township, also as constable for a time, and as justice of the peace. Mr. Oss was one of the organizers of the Clay County Bank, of Hitterdal, of which he has

been a trustee since its organization. He is a member of the Synod Lutheran church, of which he was for three years trustee before becoming treasurer, which office he now holds.

Before coming to America, Mr. Oss was sergeant in the Norwegian army which he entered in 1867, serving until 1872. After leaving the army, he went to Christiania, Norway, where he was employed for eight years as superintendent of a manufacturing plant, where many kinds of machinery, tools, stoves, and the like were manufactured. Because his health was failing he was advised by his physician to give up inside work and he quit the factory. He then decided to come to America, where there was larger opportunity for outdoor work.

John Oss was united in marriage to Johanna Wenner, and to this union six children were born, namely: Oscar, Ray, Jennie, who married Anton Melbye; Theodore, Helga, the wife of Julius Schloesser; Alfred, the postmaster at Hitterdal, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Oss, being members of the Synod Lutheran church, have reared their children according to the precepts of this creed.

JOHN BURRILL.

One of the well-remembered and highly esteemed citizens of Hawley, Clay county, during a past generation was the late John Burrill. He was born at Abbott, Maine, on August 2, 1842, a son of Jacob and Rachael (Bennett) Burrill, who are mentioned on other pages of this volume.

John Burrill spent a part of his boyhood in his native town, where he attended the public schools, but before he had reached man's estate, he removed with his parents to Framingham, Massachusetts, and later to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, where he was employed in a woodenware factory. In the spring of 1861, he enlisted in Company A, Second New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, being the first man from his county to enlist in the three-year service. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment, he re-enlisted for the duration of the war, a period of one year. He took part in many of the leading battles of the Civil War, including Bull Run (first and second), Fredericksburg, Antietam, Gettysburg, siege of Richmond, and many others, being present at Lee's surrender at Appomattox, Virginia. Soon, thereafter, he was detailed as a guard. He had previously been an orderly for Gen. Joe Hooker, and he had the honor of escorting Pres-

ident Lincoln from the boat-landing at Fredericksburg to General Hooker's headquarters on one occasion, when the chief executive paid the commander of the Army of the Potomac a visit. In all, Mr. Burrill took part in about thirty battles and skirmishes. He was a brave and efficient soldier for the Union. Other battles in which he took part were those of Cold Harbor, siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, siege of Petersburg and those of the Peninsular campaign. The dates of his enlistment were as follows: April 25, 1861; one month later, May 31, 1861, when he enlisted for three years in Company A, Second New Hampshire Volunteer Infantry, and on February 1, 1865, when he enlisted a third time, in Company C, of his old regiment.

After the war John Burrill went to St. Johnberry, Vermont, and worked a year in a scale factory, then returned to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, and bought a saw mill. In 1870 he moved to Iowa, where he remained until 1872, then went to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and later moved to Brainard, this state. He came to Hawley in 1873, and helped build the present Northern Pacific depot. He located on a homestead in section 26, Cromwell township, Clay county, at this time, and about 1878 he moved from his farm in 1887. In 1889, he moved to Superior, this state, where he remained one year, and then returned to Hawley, living there until his death, which occurred on June 12, 1900.

Mr. Burrill was married in 1866 to Lewellyn Foristall, who died in 1873, leaving three children, Gertrude, who married Arthur Sholley and lives in Minneapolis; Mabel, the wife of L. D. Libbey, a farmer of Honey Creek, Wisconsin, and Allen E., who served in the Spanish-American War as a member of Company C, Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and also in the Philippine War, and who married Daisy Pryor, after which he moved to Eugene, Oregon, where he died.

John Burrill married for his second wife Jane Colborn, and two children were born to them, namely: Paul C., who married Hilda Andrea and is a lieutenant in the Minnesota National Guard, and Margaret, who makes her home in Minneapolis.

John Burrill was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic Post at Hawley, of which he was commander at the time of his death. He belonged to the Masonic Lodge. In his early days here he served on the school board and for many years was justice of the peace at Hawley. He gave eminent satisfaction as a public servant, being conscientious, loyal and painstaking; prompt and obliging. He was a great student of history and was a well-informed man along general lines.

DICK MEYER.

Dick Meyer, a well-known and substantial farmer of Humboldt township, owner of three hundred and twenty acres of land in sections 2 and 3, that township, at present township treasurer and in other ways connected with the public life of Humboldt township, is a native of Germany, born in that country in July, 1860, but has been living in America since 1882. He is the son of Herre and Mary (Hein) Meyer, natives of Germany and who lived and died in that country.

Herre Meyer was born in Germany in 1831 and was educated in the schools of that country. By occupation he was a farmer and continued thus engaged throughout his active life, his death taking place in 1917, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. The intimation of his father's death reached his son, Dick, the subject of this sketch, through a newspaper notice. His wife, Mary Hein, was also born in the fatherland and spent all her life in her native land, her death occurring in 1907, having reached seventy-three years of age. To Herre Meyer and wife the following children were born: Hey, a farmer, living in Germany; Trenty, married and living in Germany; Dick, living in Humboldt township; Volke (1) deceased, and Volke (2), also deceased.

Dick Meyer received a sound education in the excellent schools of Germany and was reared on his father's place, where he assisted in the labors of developing the farm. At the age of twenty-two, in 1882, he immigrated to the United States, his first place of residence in this country being Madison county, Illinois, where he worked on farms for some years. In 1901 Mr. Meyer moved to Clay county and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 2, Humboldt township, the farm on which he now lives. He is also the owner of another one hundred and sixty acres in section 3, in the same township. He carries on general farming and since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his two tracts of land being in excellent condition. The dwelling house in which Mr. Meyer and his family reside was erected before he became the owner of the farm, but all the other buildings, including a new barn, were put up by him. His place is well improved and he is generally regarded as one of the substantial and progressive farmers in the township, operating his place according to modern methods of agriculture. He plants about forty-five acres of potatoes, the yield to the acre being well up to the average for the district.

In 1891 Dick Meyer was united in marriage to Cena Johnson, who was born in Christian county, Illinois, in 1860, the marriage taking place in Iowa. They are the parents of the following children: Herman, John, Mary, Cena and Kattie. Mr. and Mrs. Meyer take a proper interest in the affairs of the community in which they reside, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of neighborhood and township. Mr. Meyer gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and is now serving as township treasurer, filling the office with a marked degree of ability. He also was a director on the district school board for six years, his attention to educational matters during that period being unremitting.

HANS J. ULLRICH.

Hans J. Ullrich, well-known grain buyer at the village of Downer, and clerk of the township of Elkton, Clay county, was born in Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was ten years of age, and of Minnesota since 1885. He was born on October 27, 1870, son of Hans and Wiby (Glohe) Ullrich, also natives of Germany, who came to the United States with their family in 1880 and settled in Boone county, Iowa. Five years later they came to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Martin county, and there Mrs. Ullrich spent her last days. Some time after his wife's death, Hans Ullrich, Sr., moved to Elkton township, Clay county, where he was engaged in farming until his death. He took an active interest in local civic affairs and was serving as a member of the board of township supervisors at the time of his death. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were five of these children, all of whom are living, the subject of this sketch having three brothers, Henry, John and Marcus, and a sister, Anna.

Having been but a boy when he came to this country with his parents in 1880, Hans J. Ullrich completed his schooling in the schools of Iowa and Martin county, Minnesota, where he began farming on his own account. He remained there until the fall of 1899, when he came up into the Red River country, where he has ever since made his home, living in Downer and vicinity. For a time after coming here, he was engaged in farm labor and then for five years was engaged as a clerk in a store at Downer, working first for John Seim and later for Mrs. Hawkins, the latter having suc-

ceeded the former in the proprietorship of the store. Mr. Ullrich then was engaged by the Hennepin Grain Company as buyer at Downer and, after two years of connection with that concern, was employed by the St. Anthony & Dakota Grain Company as buyer in the same place and has ever since been thus engaged, one of the best-known grain men in that part of the country. Mr. Ullrich is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres at Downer, a part of the townsite having been laid out on his place. In addition to his activities as a grain buyer, he gives his personal attention to the management of his farm. He also handles the local agency for the Fargo Implement Company. Ever since coming to this section, Mr. Ulrich has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, having served for two terms as justice of the peace in Elkton township and for the past eight years as clerk of the same.

In 1912, Hans J. Ullrich was united in marriage to Lydia A. Austin, who was born in Clay county, daughter of C. W. Austin and wife, and to this union two children have been born, John Arthur and Myrtle Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Ullrich are members of the Lutheran church, the former being one of the organizers of the local congregation of that church, in the affairs of which he and his wife take a warm interest.

FREDERICK W. ALTENBERND.

Frederick W. Altenbernd, a well-known and substantial farmer of the southern part of Clay county and the proprietor of a fine place of four hundred and eight acres in Elmwood township, where he and his family are very comfortably situated, is a native of Kansas, born on a pioneer farm in Douglas county, that state, on January 4, 1871. He is a son of William and Katie (Hill) Altenbernd, natives of Germany, the former of whom came to this country in 1860, he then being twenty-seven years of age, and the latter of whom came to America with her parents when she was eight years of age. Both are now deceased. They were the parents of eight children.

Reared on the home farm in the neighborhood of Lawrence, Kansas, Frederick W. Altenbernd received his schooling in the public schools of that city and in the business college there. Not long after leaving, he came up here into the Red River country and bought a farm of two hundred and forty acres in Elmwood township, Clay county, and started in to improve

and develop the same, establishing his permanent home there after his marriage in 1901. Mr. Altenbernd has done well in his farming operations, and has increased his original holdings until now he is the owner of a fine place of four hundred and eighty acres. He is now regarded as one of the most securely established farmers in that section of the county, his place being well improved and profitably cultivated. In addition to his general farming, he has, of late years, gone somewhat extensively into potato raising and has done well in that line, having discovered, along with many other thoughtful agriculturists hereabout, that potatoes constitute one of the most profitable crops raised in the Red River valley.

In 1901, Frederick W. Altenbernd was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Schroeder, who was born in Elmwood township, daughter of Henry Schroeder and wife, pioneers of Clay county, further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume, and to this union two children have been born, sons both, Carl and Clarence. Mr. and Mrs. Altenbernd are members of the German Lutheran church and give proper attention to the various beneficences of the same, as well as to the general good works and social affairs of the community in which they live, and are doing well their part in advancing the neighborhood's common welfare.

PROF. H. R. EDWARDS

Prof. H. R. Edwards, superintendent of the Moorhead city schools, past president of the Minnesota State Association of School Superintendents, an active member of the National Education Association for more than twenty years and for years one of Minnesota's best-known and most influential schoolmen, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of Minnesota, actively engaged in school work here, for nearly a quarter of a century. He was born in the village of Alfred, in Allegany county, New York, December 1, 1870, son of Joseph and Harriet (Williams) Edwards, both natives of that same state, who spent all their lives there. Joseph Edwards was a substantial miller and landowner and a man of influence in his community. He and his wife were members of the Baptist church and their children were reared in that faith. There were seven of these children, all of whom grew to maturity and of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Horace G., Allison



PROF. H. R. EDWARDS.

J., Elsworth J., William S., Lillian M. and Lewis D. Professor Edwards is of distinguished lineage both on the paternal side and on the maternal side, being a lineal descendant of Jonathan Edwards, the great American divine, theologian, metaphysician and early president of Princeton College, and of Roger Williams, Welsh clergyman and Puritan, who fled from England to escape persecution and settled in New England in the early days of the Pilgrim colony, where he hoped to enjoy the religious freedom he was denied at home.

Reared at his home village of Alfred, H. R. Edwards spent his youth as an assistant in the labors of his father's mill and farm, meanwhile giving careful attention to his studies, and after his graduation from the Alfred high school entered the university at that place and was graduated from the same in 1894. Upon receiving his diploma Professor Edwards entered at once upon his long and useful career as an educator and has since taken post-graduate work in the University of Wisconsin and in the University of Minnesota. He began his high-school work in Minnesota in the fall of 1895 and has ever since been actively engaged in school work in this state, before entering upon his present position of superintendent of city schools at Moorhead in 1909 having had successive connection with the schools at Wheaton, at Browns Valley, at Redwood Falls, at Worthington and at Morris. It was in 1909 that he accepted the position of superintendent of schools at Moorhead and he has been retained in that useful and influential position ever since. During the past fifteen years Professor Edwards has occupied his summers as a teacher in the State Normal Schools at Mankato and at Moorhead and has long been one of the best-known schoolmen in Minnesota. For the past twenty-one years he has been a member of the National Education Association and has attended most of the meetings of superintendents. In 1915 he was the president of the Minnesota State Association of School Superintendents. For years he has taken an active interest in the deliberations of this association and in the general school work of the state, and was a member of the state high-school committee that formulated the present high-school curriculum in use in this state.

In 1894, the year of his graduation from the university, Professor Edwards was united in marriage to Harriet M. Potter, of Albion, Wisconsin, and has two children, Carrol and Helen. Professor and Mrs. Edwards are members of the Baptist church and take an active interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social and cultural activ-

ities of the community in which they live. Professor Edwards is a member of the local lodges of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same and is an officer in the Royal League.

JOHN McGRATH.

John McGrath, former member of the Legislature, former mayor of Barnesville, city treasurer for several years and in other ways identified with public affairs, is a native of the state of Wisconsin, born in Outagamie county, on October 20, 1857. He is a son of Dennis and Ellen (Cashman) McGrath, both of whom were natives of Ireland, and who came to this country in 1847—the year of the great immigration from that country—and soon located in Wisconsin.

Shortly after his arrival in Wisconsin, Dennis McGrath settled in Outagamie county, and commenced operations as a farmer, success attending his efforts from the very beginning. He continued thus engaged until 1867, when the family moved to near Owatona, Steele county, Minnesota, where he bought a farm and operated the same for a short time only, death claiming him that same year. His wife survived him several years. Dennis and Ellen (Cashman) McGrath were the parents of eight children as follows: Alice, Mary Anna, Thomas, John, the subject of this sketch; Johanna, D. F., Michael and Edward. Dennis McGrath and his wife were earnest members of the Catholic church, always interested in its good works, and their children were reared in the same faith.

John McGrath was ten years old when his parents left Wisconsin and came to Steele county, Minnesota, and he was educated in the public schools of that county. At the age of twenty-two, in 1879, he came to Barnesville, Clay county, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Barnesville township. At the time he settled here there was no town where the present village is located, and the place at the time Mr. McGrath settled there, consisted of two or three stores. He continued to reside on his homestead for about two years, at the end of which time he came to Barnesville, where he has since lived. His first residence was northwest of what is now the main portion of Barnesville.

On settling in Barnesville John McGrath started in the butcher business and was engaged in that branch of work up to 1900, meeting with encourag-

ing success during the long period he was in that trade. In addition thereto, about 1885, he opened up an implement and harness business, in which he was equally successful and which he continued to operate until 1909, when he disposed of the harness branch of his store. He still conducts the implement department which he first opened in 1885, being thus one of the oldest merchants in that branch of commercial enterprise in Clay county, and from the operations of which he has reaped a handsome competency.

On September 1, 1885, John McGrath was united in marriage to Alice Brislaim, formerly a resident of Steele county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. McGrath are the parents of seven children, namely: Frances, Alice, Cecilia, Lucy, Ruth, John and Harold Robert. The McGrath family are members of the Catholic church and are warm supporters of all the good works and societies attached to the church. They take an active interest in the affairs of the community and are earnest advocates of all movements designed to further the general welfare of the township and county.

Mr. McGrath is a supporter of the Republican party and was returned by the votes of that party to the Legislature, in which he served for one term, giving general satisfaction in that important office to the interests he represented. He was elected mayor of Barnesville and served the public very acceptably for a period of six years, during which period many improvements of an important character were carried out. Mr. McGrath was elected to the office of treasurer and occupied that responsible office for the long term of thirteen years—a period during which he enjoyed the undiminished confidence of the public. For many years he was a member of the local council and is now serving as justice of the peace in and for the Barnesville township. Mr. McGrath holds membership in the Knights of Columbus and in the affairs of that popular order takes a warm interest.

H. R. BURRILL.

H. R. Burrill, dealer in farming implements at Hawley, Clay county, was born on September 19, 1858, in Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, a son of Jacob Burrill, who was born in 1818 and died in 1891. He was educated in the common schools of his native town, and at Keene, New Hampshire, until 1876. After that, he worked in a store at Dana, Massachusetts. In the spring of 1878, he came to Hawley, Minnesota, arriving in Clay county on April 19th. He took up a homestead in Keene township, which

he developed into a good farm. He and Lewis Smith were among the earliest pioneers there, breaking the first sod in Keen township, using oxen for the purpose. Hawley, twelve miles away, was their nearest base of supplies. They continued farming until 1897 when they sold out. While living in that township, Mr. Burrill was the first treasurer of school district No. 30, which office he held many years until a new district was formed out of part of the old. In 1897, he bought a farm in section 10, Hawley township, one and one-half miles west of the village of Hawley, and there he lived until 1907, in which year he moved to Hawley and formed a partnership with Hans Rushfeldt in the machine business. In 1912, he formed a partnership with his son Robert, who bought out the interest of Mr. Rushfeldt, the new firm also taking over the Andrew Johnson machine business. They have a large and well-equipped store and handle an extensive stock of farming implements, making a specialty of the John Deere machinery, and they now carry on a large and constantly growing trade with the surrounding country.

Mr. Burrill was married on April 19, 1885, to Harriet McDonald, a daughter of John McDonald, and to their union the following children have been born: Robert H., who is in business with his father at Hawley; Dan W., who married Fannie Skinner, and who died by being accidentally suffocated by gas on April 28, 1916; James, who married Edna Rapp, and is a dentist at Ulen, Minnesota; Henry, Allen, and Leola, an adopted child.

Politically, H. R. Burrill is a Democrat. He has served three terms as a member of the Hawley school board, and is, at this writing, a member of the village council. He belongs to the Congregational church.

Robert H. Burrill, son of H. R. Burrill and partner in business with his father at Hawley, was born, January 24, 1888, at Hawley, where he was reared and received his education in the public schools, graduating from the high school. In 1907, he went to Minneapolis and found employment with the Deere & Weber Implement Company, where he learned the various phases of the farming machinery business. He was alert, faithful and courteous and gave his employers eminent satisfaction. In the spring of 1910, he returned to Hawley and worked for his father-in-law, in the store of the Andrew Johnson Company until the spring of 1912, when he formed a partnership with his father, as related in a preceding paragraph in this sketch. He has remained here in the farming implement business which has steadily grown until it has now assumed vast proportions.

Robert H. Burrill was married to Laura Johnson, a daughter of Andrew

Johnson and wife, well-known citizens of Hawley, where Mr. Johnson has long been a leading merchant. To Robert H. Burrill and wife three children have been born, namely: Robert H., Jr., Laton Herman, and Henry Willard.

JAMES CONNELLY.

James Connelly, one of the best known and most progressive young farmers in the central western part of Clay county and who, in association with his elder brother, William Connelly, is farming the old Patrick Connelly farm in Glyndon township, is a native son of this county and has lived here all his life. He was born on what is now known as the Wright farm, in the vicinity of Moorhead, in Moorhead township, May 2, 1884, son of Patrick and Bridget (Lundy) Connelly, natives of County Monaghan, Ireland, who became pioneers of Clay county, settling here in 1880, and further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume. Patrick Connelly was a substantial and influential pioneer citizen, and for years served as a member of the board of supervisors of Glyndon township, in which he established his home three or four years after coming here and where he spent his last days. His widow is still living on the home place. They were the parents of three sons, William and James Connelly having a brother, John Connelly, also a Glyndon township farmer, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Reared on the home place in Glyndon township, to which his parents moved from Moorhead township when he was but an infant, James Connelly completed his schooling in the public schools at Moorhead and early became a practical farmer. At the age of fourteen he became fireman in a threshing crew and at seventeen years of age qualified as an engineer, in which position he acted for five years or more during the threshing seasons. Since the death of their father, he and his elder brother, William, have been operating the home place and have done well. They also own and operate a threshing outfit and have a wide acquaintance throughout the field of their operations. The Connelly farm consists of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land and the brothers have one of the best-equipped farm plants in that part of the county. William Connelly, who is unmarried, was born in 1877, in Pennsylvania, and was but three years of age when his parents moved from that state to Minnesota, where he has ever since lived, making his home on the home place in Glyndon township, with the exception

of the period spent in "proving up" a homestead tract of a half section of land in the vicinity of Miles City, Montana. He is the eldest of the three Connelly brothers and his judgment is highly valued by them.

On December 9, 1914, James Connelly was united in marriage to Amanda Henrietta Kuehl, who was born in the neighboring township of Elmwood, daughter of Fred Kuehl and wife, pioneers of that section of Clay county, the latter of whom died suddenly on March 4, 1917, at Sabin, Minnesota, at the age of fifty-nine years. He was of German ancestry, and was the father of ten children, six girls and four boys. Mr. and Mrs. James Connelly are the parents of one child, a son, Raymond. They are members of the Catholic church and have ever taken an active interest in parish affairs, liberal contributors to the work of the same and helpful in other ways in advancing the good works of the neighborhood, in which they have been residents since pioneer days.

ORRIS OLIVER.

Orris Oliver was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, July 5, 1873, a son of Douglas and Sarah (Fitzgerald) Oliver, the former a native of Tennessee and the latter of Grant county, Wisconsin. Douglas Oliver came to Grant county, Wisconsin, when a young man and there was interested in a woolen and flour mill, and also was engaged in the mercantile and farming business. About 1879, he removed to Kansas, where he conducted a large farm, on which he engaged in general extensive agriculture. He died at Junction City, Kansas. To Mr. and Mrs. Oliver were born the following children: Charles R., Dwight, Grant, Hattie, Fred, and Orris, the subject of this review. Mrs. Oliver, who was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church, survived her husband a few years, her death occurring also at Junction City.

Orris Oliver was educated in the public schools at Kansas, and later took a business course in a school at Fargo, North Dakota. In 1893, he entered the Barnesville bank as a bookkeeper, and on December 1, 1894, he entered the law office of Charles S. Marden, at Barnesville, to take charge of the real estate department in which that office was largely engaged. In 1897, he went to the Klondyke, where he remained for two years, and after returning to Minnesota in 1899, he located at Minneapolis, where he was employed until 1901 with a threshing machine company. Then he

returned to Barnesville and again took charge of the real estate business in the office of Charles S. Marden. In 1910, on Mr. Marden's removal to Moorhead, the Red River Farm and Loan Company was organized in Barnesville to handle the real estate business of the community, and Mr. Oliver took charge of the enterprise and has continued in this business since.

Mr. Oliver was married to Minnie G. Cornish in 1902, and to this union three children have been born: Charles D., Frank C., and Lew D. Mr. Oliver's fraternal affiliations are with the Masonic, the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen lodges. He has served on the city council two terms and is at present serving his second term as a member of the school board.

ARTHUR L. FOBES.

Arthur L. Fobes, one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Elmwood township, Clay county, and the proprietor there of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres, was born on a farm in the vicinity of Racine, in Racine county, Wisconsin, January 21, 1866, son of Orange and Cynthia (Morse) Fobes, natives of the state of Ohio. His parents settled in Wisconsin about 1865, but later moved to Iowa, where the former spent his last days and where the latter is still living.

Orange Fobes was a farmer through life. He was of old Colonial and of Revolutionary descent and his wife was descended from "Mayflower" stock. He and his wife located in Racine county, Wisconsin, about 1865, and remained there until 1876, when they moved to Grundy county, Iowa, where the former died in 1881. His widow is now living in Butler county, Iowa. They were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch, who is the second in order of birth, being Homer L.; Stiles, who died in infancy; Clarence M. and Clara E., twins, and one other, who died in infancy.

Arthur L. Fobes was about twelve years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to Iowa, and he completed his schooling in the latter state. He began farming on his own account in Butler county, Iowa, where he was married in 1892, and continued to reside until 1902, when he came up into Minnesota and bought the farm on which he is now living, a half section in Elmwood township, Clay county. He has since made this his place of residence, he and his family being very comfortably situated

there. In addition to his general farming interests, Mr. Fobes has given considerable attention to other interests and is president of the Home Farmers Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Minneapolis, which he helped to organize and of which he has been the president since the date of its organization. He also is actively interested in the local telephone company. In civic affairs he likewise has taken a proper interest, and has been clerk of the school board in his home district ever since it was organized.

On September 28, 1892, in Iowa, Arthur L. Fobes was united in marriage to Cora G. Bronson, daughter of G. M. and Margaret (Hendrick) Bronson, natives of New York state, who became residents of Wisconsin and later of Iowa. G. M. Bronson was a veteran of the Civil War, who performed service in a Wisconsin regiment, a member of the Twelfth Wisconsin Battery, and also was for some time connected with the United States secret service. Mr. and Mrs. Fobes have four children: Charles V., Orange G., Joseph and Josephine, all of whom are at home. Mr. Fobes is a member of the Baptist church and the children are connected with the Presbyterian church. Mr. Fobes is a member of the local lodges of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of the Maccabees, and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest. He is now serving as supervisor of highway construction in his home district.

JAMES LAMB.

The late James Lamb, one of the pioneers of Clay county, who died at Fergus Falls, and whose widow is still living on the home place, the owner of three-quarters of a section of land besides a quarter section in North Dakota, was a native of Scotland, born in Forfarshire in 1847, son of John and Elizabeth Lamb, also natives of Scotland, the former of whom died in his native land and the latter of whom came to Minnesota with her younger son, John, in the seventies. The son pre-empted a claim in Elkton township, Clay county, and here she spent her last days on a quarter section near Dornier. In a memorial sketch relating to the late John Lamb and in a biographical sketch relating to Charles Lamb, Sr., of Baker, brother of the subject of this memorial sketch, presented elsewhere in this volume, there is set out at some length further details of the settlement of the Lamb family in Clay county and the attention of the reader is respectfully invited



JAMES LAMB AND FAMILY.

to those narratives for further information of a genealogical and historical character relating to this well-known and influential family.

Reared on the home farm in his native Forfarshire, James Lamb there grew to manhood and in that neighborhood was married in 1868 to Ann Anderson, who also was born in Scotland, a daughter of George and Agnes (Todd) Anderson, the former of whom was an extensive stock dealer and had many business interests. He was an ardent church member and he and his wife spent all their lives in Scotland. George Anderson and wife were the parents of four children, of whom Mrs. Lamb was the last-born, the others being Mary, who is still living in Scotland, and Agnes and James, both now deceased. In 1882 James Lamb came to the United States with his family and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Clay county, whither his mother and his brothers had preceded him some years before, settling on a homestead tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Elkton township, where he and his family established their home. Unhappily, not long after locating there, Mr. Lamb became incapacitated for the physical labor necessary to the development of a pioneer farm and the laborious task of developing and improving the place fell upon his wife, who with fine courage and indomitable spirit surmounted the difficulties in her way and presently had an excellent farm plant there, a substantial set of buildings and a profitably-cultivated farm. Mrs. Lamb is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable pioneer women in the state. She did not have a dollar of her own, or a wagon team, implement or seed with which to start her crops, when she took hold of this pre-empted claim. With true Scotch grit she managed to keep her family together and paid off every dollar she borrowed. She succeeded in accumulating the land interests she now owns, all of the work being the outcome of her own energy. She has numerous friends who hold her in the highest esteem. As she prospered in her undertakings Mrs. Lamb bought three hundred and twenty acres more of land and now has three-quarters of a section of valuable land, continuing actively engaged in the management of her well-improved place.

To James and Ann (Anderson) Lamb the following children were born, namely: George, deceased; Mary, deceased; Andrew, now a resident of North Dakota; Agnes, deceased, wife of Gustav Erstad; Albert, of Clay county; William, deceased; James, who is at home assisting his mother in the management of the home farm, and one who died in infancy. Besides rearing this family, Mrs. Lamb reared her grandson, Walter, son of her deceased daughter, Mary (Lamb) Morey, and the young man has adopted

the surname Lamb, being known as Walter Lamb. Mrs. Lamb is an active member of the Presbyterian church and has ever taken an interested part in the affairs of the church, as well as in the general good works of the community of which she has been a resident since pioneer days.

OLE E. TANGEN.

The career of Ole E. Tangen, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, is a good example of what may be accomplished by a man of grit and perseverance, who comes to a strange land without capital. There have been many such in Minnesota during the past half century, principally from Scandinavia, and we have always welcomed them, knowing that most of them would turn out to be good citizens.

Mr. Tangen was born in Norway, January 19, 1851. He is a son of Evan O. and Inge Marie (Stensgard) Tangen, both natives of Norway, the father born on January 1, 1829, and the mother, in 1825. They grew up in their native land, where they married and where they lived until they came to America and established the family home in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm, the father dying at the age of fifty-four years. The mother reached the advanced age of eighty-five years. To these parents the following children were born: Andrew, who died in New York City at the age of fifty-four years; Ole E., the subject of this sketch; Kathryne, who died in South Dakota at the age of forty-five; Gust, who is engaged in farming in Montana; Christ, who lives at Livingston, this state; Christina, who married B. B. Hetland and died in Moorhead, Minnesota, June 16, 1917.

Ole E. Tangen was ten years old when he came to America in 1861. He spent his boyhood on the farm of his father in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he attended the district schools; but his education was limited, for he had to go to work when only ten years old. He came to Clay county in 1878 and the following year bought one-half of section 16, Kragnes township, and here he has since resided. During his residence of thirty-eight years in this locality he has seen the country change from a wild prairie to a fine farming section. He made all the improvements on his land, erecting a splendid group of buildings, good fences, etc., and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He makes a specialty of raising

Shorthorn cattle. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Kragnes.

Mr. Tangen was married in Houston county, Minnesota, on March 30, 1878, to Gelina Studlien, who was born in that county June 6, 1860, and there she grew to womanhood on the farm and received a common school education. She is a daughter of Ole and Bertha (Lien) Studlien, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and from there immigrated to America in 1850, and established the family home in Houston county, this state, being pioneers there. The father owned a good farm there, which was sold a number of years ago. They moved to Clay county and here both passed away.

Fourteen children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Tangen, namely: Mrs. Bertha Montgomery, who lives in St. Louis, Missouri; Edward, who died in 1900 at the age of nineteen years; Bernice, who is at home; Clara, who lives in Missouri; Mrs. Genelia Whitsel, who lives in Montana; Selma, at home; Oberlin, also at home; Jennette, at home; Martin Walter, who died at the age of eighteen months; and Winnifred, Walter, Esther, Rudolph and Norman, all at home.

Politically, Mr. Tangen is a Republican. He has held all the offices on the school board in district No. 24 and is now a director. He has also held all the offices on the township board and has been assessor, etc. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is chairman of the board of trustees of the same.

WILLIAM RUSSELL.

William Russell, formerly and for years the official reporter for the seventh Minnesota judicial district, with residence at Moorhead, and for the past seventeen years a practicing attorney in that city, is a native of the Dominion of Canada, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the middle eighties and is thus thoroughly familiar with the development of this part of the state for more than thirty years. He was born in Stratford, in the province of Ontario, and there received his schooling and grew to manhood.

In 1883 Mr. Russell left his native Canada and came to Minnesota, locating at Moorhead, where, and at Fargo, he began the study of law. In the year 1886 he removed to St. Cloud, Minnesota, having been appointed to the position of reporter for the seventh judicial district, comprising the counties of Stearns, Benton, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Todd, Douglas, Otter

Tail, Wabena, Becker and Clay, and held that position continuously until in January, 1900, when he engaged in the practice of law at Moorhead and has since been thus engaged. During his many years of experience as reporter for this judicial district, Mr. Russell gained an acquaintance throughout the district and a familiarity with legal procedure that has been invaluable to him since he entered upon the practice of the profession, to which he had been giving his studious attention since the days of his young manhood, and there is perhaps no better known lawyer throughout this whole section of the state than he. Mr. Russell has ever given a good citizen's attention to the general affairs of his home town and is an active member of the Moorhead Commercial Club, in the affairs of which he takes a warm interest. Mr. Russell is the owner of a half section of well-improved land in the neighborhood of Moorhead and gives considerable interested attention to the operation of his farm.

In 1901, William Russell was united in marriage to Esther Davis, of Marshall, this state, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Russell are members of the Presbyterian church and take a proper interest in the general good works of their home town.

ELMER G. HANSON

Elmer G. Hanson was born in Badger, Iowa, August 17, 1890, a son of H. P. Hanson, born at Mineral Point, Wisconsin, and Rena Hanson, born at Rushford, Minnesota. The former is a retired merchant, of Badger, Iowa, and is now living at Driscoll, North Dakota, the owner of several farms which he operates by tenants.

Elmer G. Hanson received his elementary education in the public schools of Iowa, and then attended St. Olaf College, at Northfield, Minnesota, where he took a course of preparatory studies, after which he entered the University of Wisconsin for a regular college course. He completed the course and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. After leaving college, he took up the banking business and received his training in that line in Iowa. In October, 1916, he came to Hitterdal, and in November of that year he opened up the Clay County State Bank. He was made cashier of this bank and has held that position since.

On January 4, 1917, Mr. Hanson was married to Annette Davenport, daughter of N. S. Davenport, of Dennison, Minnesota. Mr. Hanson is a member of the United Lutheran church.

FRED SCHEEL.

Among the well-known residents of long standing in and about the town of Sabin, Clay county, Fred Scheel, fuel merchant at that place, deserves recognition. He was born in Germany on February 22, 1858, a son of Wilhelm and Margaret (Kraino) Scheel, both of whom were also born in Germany and spent their entire lives in that country, the son, Fred, being the only member of the Scheel family to settle in the United States.

Wilhelm Scheel, father of the subject of this sketch, followed the occupation of a railroad man for several of the active years of his life. His diligence and attention to his duties brought him recognition and he was eventually promoted to the important position of railroad inspector, his journeys in connection with this work taking him on long trips over the railroad system on which he was employed. Wilhelm Scheel was also in the military service of his country and saw active campaigning in 1866 during the war between Germany and Austria. Mr. and Mrs. Scheel were the parents of five children, namely: Caroline, Fred, Wilhelm, Margaret and Henry.

Fred Scheel was educated in the public schools of Germany, and some short time after the close of his school days he started life for himself as a sailor. He made several voyages to this country, the first being in 1874, and eventually decided to seek fortune as a landsman, settling permanently in the United States.

In 1885 Fred Scheel made a trip to America and located in Chicago, where he took up sailing on the Great Lakes, and continued thus engaged for some years. In 1894 he came to Clay county and worked for two years as a brick layer in Sabin and then started in the hardware business, buying out a former hardwareman, Fred Haffen. Mr. Scheel continued in that line of trade for several years during which time his hardware business proved a financial success, and in 1915 he turned the store over to his son, Fred M., who has since been conducting it, giving the business the same care which made it successful under his father's management. Following the transfer of the hardware business to his son, Mr. Scheel started in the fuel business and has been so engaged since 1915, making a success of his operations in that line as he had done previously in the hardware enterprise.

In 1892, Fred Scheel was united in marriage to Augusta Fraino, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Fred Fraino and wife, both of whom spent their lives in Germany, where the former was a farmer. To Mr. and

Mrs. Scheel three children have been born, namely: Fred M., Margaret, and Helen. The Scheel family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and are active in all its good works and in all community good works. Mr. Scheel was for three years chairman of the Elmwood township board, and also served on the school board for some time.

I. HAMMERUD.

I. Hammerud, manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Comstock, Clay county, was born in Norway, June 12, 1874, a son of Halvor and Jennie (Hanson) Hammerud, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their home. They continued to reside in their native land until 1880, when they immigrated with their family to America, locating near Lake Park, in Becker county, Minnesota, where the father became very well situated, owning a farm which he developed through his close application and persistency. He continued general farming and stock raising there until his death, which occurred in 1912. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as was also his wife. They were parents of eleven children, as follows: Ole, Hans, Christine, I., Mary, Andrew, Charles, Henry, George, Albert and Rudolph.

I. Hammerud was six years old when his parents brought him to the United States. He grew to manhood in Becker county, Minnesota, and assisted his father with the work on the home farm. During the winter months, he attended the district schools of Clay county, since the nearest school house was in Clay county. Later he attended Concordia College at Moorhead, this county. He continued farming until about 1902, when he came to Comstock, Clay county, and conducted a pool hall for about twelve years with success. In August, 1916, he became manager of the Farmers' Elevator at Comstock, which position he still holds and has discharged his duties in an able and faithful manner to the satisfaction of the stockholders and all concerned. He handles a large amount of grain each year and has made this the best-known elevator in the southwestern part of the county, doing a thriving business with the farmers on every side.

Mr. Hammerud was married on June 12, 1908, to Jennie Monson, who was born in Comstock, Clay county, Minnesota, where she was educated in the public schools. She is the daughter of Ludwig and Eliza (Knoph) Monson, both natives of Norway, who immigrated to America and are still

living. They are the parents of three children, as follows: Jennie, the wife of the subject of this review; and two sons, Henry and Reinard, both at home. They also have an adopted daughter, Dora, who is also living at home. To Mr. and Mrs. Hammerud three children have been born, namely: Leonard, Chester and Ivin.

Politically, Mr. Hammerud is a Republican. He was assessor of Holy Cross township four years, and has performed his duties as a public servant in a highly acceptable manner. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, which he has served as treasurer.

LOUIS ALTENBERND.

Louis Altenbernd, a well-known landowner and the proprietor of several potato warehouses in and about Clay county, was born in the Blue Grass state on February 18, 1876, the son of William and Katie (Hill) Altenbernd, both of whom were natives of Germany. William Altenbernd immigrated to the United States in 1860, when he was twenty-seven years old, and his wife, Katie Hill, came to this country with her parents, when she was twelve. They were the parents of eight children. William Altenbernd and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and ever were active in its affairs.

Louis Altenbernd was reared on his father's farm in Kansas, and he attended the public schools of the community in which he lived. Later he supplemented this training by a course in the business college of Lawrence, Kansas, from which institution he was graduated. After helping in the work on his father's farm for several years, he finally began agricultural pursuits on his own account. In 1903, he removed to Sabin, Clay county, Minnesota, and there began to farm on a modest scale, his efforts meeting with success. As he prospered in his farming operations, he added to his land holdings and is now the owner of sixteen hundred and sixty acres of choice farming land in and around the Sabin vicinity.

In 1905, Mr. Altenbernd began to handle potatoes on a large scale and now has several warehouses where potatoes are stored. To meet the growing demands for his potatoes, which crop is one of the most important on his farms, he built the present large potato warehouse at Sabin in 1905, and also operates warehouses at such different points as Rustad, Baker, Downer, Watts and Hawley. His operations in potatoes are on a very extensive

scale and he is generally recognized as one of the largest and most substantial potato growers in this part of the state. In addition to the potato trade, he also conducts general farming and has been very successful.

In the summer of 1909, Louis Altenbernd was united in marriage to Mary Brandt, a native of the state of Ohio, and a daughter of Louis Brandt and wife, residents of that state. To Mr. and Mrs. Altenbernd four children have been born, namely: Walter, Esther, Louise and Hilda, all of whom are at home with their parents. The Altenbernd family are members of the Lutheran church and are active participants in the good works of the same. They are warm advocates of all movements designed to advance the community interests. Mr. Altenbernd is an independent in politics, but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time to his large potato warehouse interests.

BENEDIX KUEHL.

Benedix Kuehl, a substantial and prosperous farmer, owner of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land in Elmwood township, Clay county, is a native-born German, but has been a resident of this country for more than twenty-seven years. He was born in Germany in 1855 and is a son of Fred and Anna Kuehl, also natives of the Fatherland, where Anna Kuehl died in 1869.

Following the death of his first wife, Fred Kuehl was married a second time and in company with some of the members of his family he immigrated to the United States in 1890. On his arrival in this country he came on out to the state of Minnesota and settled in Clay county. He engaged in farming in Elmwood township, at Sabin, and continued thus engaged for the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1903. He was the father of the following children: Dora, Lizzie, Margaret, Kattie, living in Germany; Fred, who is deceased, and Benedix, the subject of this sketch.

Benedix Kuehl was educated in the common schools of Germany and worked for some time at farm labor. At the age of thirty-five, in 1890, he accompanied his father to the United States and on reaching this country they came on out to Minnesota and settled in Clay county. Benedix Kuehl worked for various farmers in and about this county for a period of about eight years. In 1898 he decided to purchase land and to commence the life of a farmer on his own account. He bought a tract of prime land and



MIE. AND MRS. BENEDIX KIEHL.

immediately proceeded to place it in a state of cultivation. He prospered from the very beginning of his farming operations and added other land to his original purchase, and he is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of choice land. He is engaged in general farming and has now a well-developed tract, and is generally regarded as one of the most progressive and energetic farmers in Elnwood township; his farming operations being carried on according to modern methods of agriculture. Mr. Kuehl made all the present substantial improvements on his farm, and his buildings and dwelling are among the best in the district.

On July 11, 1886, Benedix Kuehl was united in marriage to Henrietta Neve, while they were living in Germany. They are the parents of the following children: Fred, who is married; Henning; Hans, married; Ferdinand; John; Lena, Margaret, Mary, Dora, the latter four being married, and Lincke. The Kuehl family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

ALFRED A. HAAGENSON.

Alfred A. HaagenSON was born at Sacred Heart, Renville county, Minnesota, December 13, 1879, a son of Arne HaagenSON, born in Saaler, Norway, and Ida A. (Ericson) HaagenSON, born in Dakota county, Minnesota. Arne HaagenSON, father of our subject, came to America from Norway at the age of fifteen years and found employment, working on the Mississippi river for three or four years as a river man. Then he went to Renville, Minnesota, in 1877, and was one of the pioneer homesteaders in that county. He established a home on his homestead, improved the land and remained there the rest of his life. He was the father of eight children, namely: Alfred A., the subject of this review; Sina, John, Carl, Matilda, Bennie, Olivia and Robert. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Alfred A. HaagenSON was educated in the public schools of Sacred Heart and Renville, Minnesota, working on the farm when not in school. Later he attended a private school in Minneapolis. From 1901 to 1905, he was employed in the state grain department at Duluth, and for three years following this employment he was manager of the Farmers' elevator at Welcome, Minnesota. In 1908, he came to Barnesville, Minnesota, and

became manager of the Farmers' elevator at this place and has been in this business since. He also has a farm implement business here, and is interested in other business enterprises.

Mr. Haagenson was married, in 1904, to Sigrid E. Bolinder, daughter of Andrew Bolinder, of Maine township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, and to this union three children have been born: Alfred, Jr., Margaret, and Ida. Mr. Haagenson is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He served as alderman of Barnesville in 1911 and 1912; as mayor in 1913 and 1914; clerk of the board of education since 1915, which position he holds at the present time. He is a member of both the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was John Erickson, born in Sweden, as was his wife, Louvisa. They came to America in the spring of 1849 and located in Minnesota. At that time the entire white population of Minnesota, not yet a territory, was estimated to be one thousand. They were among the first of the Swedish colony to come to Minnesota. John Erickson was among the men from Minnesota who enlisted in defense of his adopted country when it was threatened with disunion in 1861. He as a soldier in the Civil War, enlisted in Company F, First Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

GILBERT PETERSON.

Gilbert Peterson was born in Norway, January 11, 1860, a son of Peter and Matilda (Peterson) Gubbrandson, both natives of Norway, the former being a carpenter by trade and spending his entire life in Norway.

Gilbert Peterson was educated in the public schools of Norway. In 1878, he came to America with his uncle, Gilbert Hanson, and located in Polk county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1880, when he came to St. Croix county, Minnesota. In 1883, he removed to Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, and was there for eight years engaged in farming and carpenter work. In 1911, he came to Hitterdal, Clay county, and has made this his home since that time. He is engaged in carpentering and contracting work, making a specialty of the latter, and has been doing most of this work in North Dakota.

Mr. Peterson was married in 1883 to Anna Anderson, and to this union four children have been born, namely: Bennie, Gunda Christina, Carl and Emma. They are members of the Synod Lutheran church.

CARL MARTIN LANGSETH.

Carl Martin Langseth, former member of the board of township supervisors in Elkton township, Clay county, and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres in section 5 of that township, on the line of the Great Northern railroad, was born on a farm in Worth county, Iowa, May 13, 1879, son of Hans N. and Anna (Benson) Langseth, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former of whom is still living, now a resident of Richland county, North Dakota, where he owns and farms a half section of land.

Hans N. Langseth was born in 1856 and remained in his native Norway until he was sixteen or seventeen years of age, when, about 1872, he came to the United States and located in Iowa. Two or three years later, he returned to Norway after his sweetheart, Anna Benson, and after their return here, they were married and established their home in Worth county, Iowa, later moving to North Dakota, where the former is now living, as noted above. His wife died in 1891, she then being forty-one years of age. They were the parents of six children, the subject of this sketch having four brothers, Oscar, Nels, William and Peter, and a sister, Emma, who is married and now lives at New Ulm, this county. All the brothers are farming in Richland county, North Dakota.

In 1901, at Moorhead, Carl M. Langseth was married to Marta Seter, who was born in the kingdom of Norway in 1877, and who came to this country in 1897. About two years after his marriage, Mr. Langseth bought the farm on which he is now living, in section 5 of Elkton township, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Langseth gives considerable attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and is doing well. He has a well-improved place of four hundred and eighty acres and has an excellent farm plant. During the season of 1912 he had in sixty acres of potatoes. For eleven years Mr. Langseth served his community as a member of the township board of supervisors, his term of office having just recently expired, and for the past thirteen years has been serving as clerk of his local school district. He is a stockholder in the Glyndon Telephone Company and in other ways has displayed his interest in the general affairs of his community.

Mr. and Mrs. Langseth have ten children: Hans, Anna, Selma, Alice, Melvin and Mary (twins), Albert, Norman, Helen and Alma, all of whom

are living. The Langseths are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same. They have a very pleasant home and give their interested attention to the community's various social affairs, helpful in promoting all agencies having to do with the advancement of the general welfare of that neighborhood.

ALBERT M. HOPEMAN.

Albert M. Hopeman, one of the well known and prominent residents of Moorhead, Clay county, was born at Preston, Minnesota, in 1878. He received his education in the common and high schools of that place, and after completing his education in the latter, he entered the University of Minnesota and was graduated from the department of civil engineering with the class of 1905. After he had completed his work in the university he was with the Chicago & Great Western Railway Company for one and one-half years, after which he served for one year as civil engineer of the city of St. Paul. He then came to Moorhead, where he engaged in the general construction work until the year 1912, when he organized the Hopeman Material Company, and was elected president and general manager of the same. The company does an extensive work in the handling of building material and in construction work. Their territory has covered a large part of the state of North Dakota and the northwestern part of Minnesota. In addition to his large interests in the Hopeman Material Company, Mr. Hopeman, in 1914, organized the Moorhead Hardware Company, and was president of the organization until 1916, at which time he sold his interests in the concern. He was most active in the enterprises in which he was interested and much of their success was due to his untiring effort to make them a success.

It was in the spring of 1907 that Albert M. Hopeman was united in marriage to Lillie Ulg, one of the prominent young women of Moorhead, and to this union have been born two children, Albert and Lillian, both of whom are now attending the home schools. Mr. and Mrs. Hopeman are active members of the Congregational church, and have long been prominent in the social life of their home community. Mr. Hopeman has always taken a very keen interest in local affairs and is now the president of the Commercial Club. He is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, having filled all the chairs of the local lodge, and of the Ancient Order of

United Workmen, of which he is a past master. For the past five years, he has served as a member of the school board, where he has given most efficient service. As a member of the Progress Club, he has done much active work and has given his best service to the home city. Few men in the community have done more for the welfare of Moorhead and the surrounding country than has Mr. Hopeman, whose best efforts have always been exerted for the district in which he has lived and where he is held in the highest regard.

OLE P. NOKKEN.

Among the native-born Norwegians who have come to the United States and engaged in general farming and stock raising in Clay county, is Ole P. Nokken, the owner of a fine farm in Moorhead, Kurt township. He was born in Norway in 1852 and is the son of Peter P. and Anna (Quamme) Nokken, the former of whom was born in Sogn, Norway in 1825 and the latter, in 1824, in the same country.

Peter P. Nokken, who is still living at the advanced age of ninety-two years, was a farmer in his native country. He was married in Norway to Anna Quamme, and, in 1870, he and his wife and children immigrated to this country, where he resumed his farming operations and continued in such during the active years of his life. Peter P. Nokken and wife were the parents of four children, as follow: Peter, deceased; Ole, the subject of this sketch; Bertha, deceased, and Sven, who is married and living in North Dakota. His long residence in Clay county has endeared Peter Nokken to a wide circle of friends. He and his wife were earnest members of the United Lutheran church, and were ever interested in all its good works.

Ole P. Nokken was educated in the schools of his native land and for some time afterwards assisted his father in farming operations. At the age of eighteen years he came with his parents to this country, in 1870. On arriving here, the family came on out to Minnesota and, in 1871, Ole P. Nokken came to Clay county, where he acquired a tract of land and commenced farming on his own account. As he prospered in his labors on the farm, he added to his land holdings and finally became the owner of three hundred and seventy-three acres of the choicest land, having purchased the place on which he lives outright in 1882. He is engaged in general farming and is very successful, his land being profitably and sys-

tematically cultivated. Mr. Nokken has made many valuable and costly improvements on his place to bring it up to the standard of modern requirements, and he is now accounted one of the best farmers in this section of the county.

In 1883, Ole P. Nokken was united in marriage to Emlie Hettland, who was born in 1865, and following their marriage, they settled on the farm where they have ever since been living. Mr. and Mrs. Nokken are the parents of the following children: Mabel, who is married; Emma, also married; Anna, Henry, Gilford, Engel, Caroline and Bertha. The Nokken family are members of the United Lutheran church at Salem and are earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in the general social activities of the community, ever supporting all movements having for their purpose the advancement of the public welfare.

FRED SCHELLAK.

Fred Schellak, owner of a half section of fine land in Elkton township, Clay county, where he and his family are very comfortably situated, is of European birth, a native of western Germany, but has been a resident of this country for the past twenty-five years or more. He was born on September 16, 1864, son of Gustav and Augusta (Parshartus) Schellak, also natives of Germany, the former of whom, a stonemason, died when his son Fred was but six weeks of age. The Widow Schellak was still living in Germany at the time communication was interrupted upon the declaration of war between the United States and that country in the spring of 1917. Gustav Schellak and wife were the parents of two sons, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Carl Schellak, who remained in his native land.

Reared in his native land, Fred Schellak received his schooling there and grew up a practical farmer, remaining there engaged in farming until 1892, when he came to the United States and located at St. Louis, where for three years thereafter he was employed working in a factory. He then decided to take up farming and went to Iowa, where he rented a farm in Buchanan county, that state, and was engaged in farming there for three years, at the end of which time he came up into Minnesota and bought a farm of eighty acres in Elkton township, Clay county. Three years later he sold that place and bought the farm on which he is now living, in that

same township, and has since made that his place of residence, having developed an excellent piece of property there. Mr. Schellak has three hundred and twenty acres of fine land, on which he has an attractive grove and substantial farm buildings, one of the best-ordered farm plants in that neighborhood. In addition to his general farming, he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done well in his operations.

On June 19, 1898, Fred Schellak was united in marriage to Bertha Wendtland, who also was born in Germany, and who came to this country with her sister, and to this union seven children have been born, Ella, Otto, Herbert (deceased), Eddie, Alma, Elsie and Clara. The Schellaks have a pleasant home on a rural mail route out of Glyndon and take an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

LELAND C. FOLLETT.

Leland C. Follett, cashier of the First State Bank of Sabin and treasurer of Elmwood township, Clay county, was born at Mapleton, in the neighboring county of Cass, over the river in North Dakota, on January 28, 1891, son of Charles C. and Sarah E. (Ohr) Follett, the former of whom was a native of the state of New York and the latter of Illinois, pioneers of the Red River country.

It was about 1874 that Charles C. Follett came up into this part of the country and settled on a homestead farm in the immediate vicinity of Lisbon, in Ransom county, North Dakota. There he made his home until his removal to Mapleton, in the adjoining county of Cass, where he became engaged in the grain business. Later, however, he moved to Oriska, where he remained until about 1912, when he returned East and is now living, retired, at Williamstown, Pennsylvania. His wife died in 1904. Of the children born to this parentage, three are still living, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, C. O. Follett, of Fargo, vice-president of the Fargo Mercantile Company, and Dr. W. C. Follett, a practicing dentist at Devils Lake, North Dakota.

Leland C. Follett received his schooling at Fargo and, upon the completion of the course in the high school of that city, became employed as bookkeeper and teller in the Dakota Trust Company of Fargo. He remained thus engaged until his appointment on February 1, 1914, as cashier of the First State Bank of Sabin, which position he still occupies, one of

the best-known young bankers in Clay county. He established his home in Sabin in October, 1915, and he and his family are now very pleasantly situated there. Mr. Follett gives his earnest attention to local civic affairs and is now serving as treasurer of his home township.

On December 25, 1914, Leland C. Follett was united in marriage to Jeannette Johnson, of Moorhead, and to this union one child has been born, a son Robert C. Mr. and Mrs. Follett are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Sabin and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of their home community. Mr. Follett is a member of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, in the affairs of which fraternity he takes a warm interest.

THOMAS McCABE.

Thomas McCabe, a member of the board of directors of the Sabin State Bank and the proprietor of a fine farm of seven hundred and twenty acres in Elmwood township, Clay county, is a native of County Cavan, Ireland, but has been a resident of this country since he was fourteen years of age and of Minnesota since he established his home here in the spring of 1881, shortly after his marriage. He was born on March 10, 1858, son of John and Kate (Murphy) McCabe, also natives of County Cavan, who spent all their lives in their native land.

At the age of fourteen years Thomas McCabe left his native Ireland and came along to the United States. He proceeded on out to Wisconsin and located at Oshkosh, in the vicinity of which city he began working on farms and for several years afterward spent his winters attending school. In the spring of 1880 he came over here into the Red River country on a prospecting tour and bought the homestead right to a tract of land, the place on which he is now living; but at that time did nothing toward the development of the same, presently returning to Oshkosh, and worked in the timber. In the fall of 1883 he was married at Fargo, North Dakota, and shortly after his marriage, he and his wife came to Clay county and entered upon the occupancy of the homestead tract he had bought three or four years before, and have ever since made that place their home. Mr. McCabe prospered in his farming operations from the very start and has increased his holdings until he now owns seven hundred and twenty acres of excellent land surrounding his home and has long been regarded as one of the most



THOMAS MCCABE AND FAMILY.

substantial citizens of that community. In addition to his general farming, he gives proper attention to the general business affairs of the community and is a member of the board of directors of the Sabin State Bank of the neighboring village of Sabin.

On October 1, 1883, Thomas McCabe was united in marriage to Carrie Moon, daughter of M. O. Moon and wife, of Pierce county, Wisconsin, natives of Norway, both of whom are now deceased, and to this union five children have been born, Margaret, Frank H., Emma, Edward G. and Thomas M., all of whom are living. The McCabes have a very pleasant home on their well-kept farm and have ever given proper attention to the community's social activities. Mr. McCabe is a member of the local lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons at Barnesville and takes a warm interest in Masonic affairs.

JAMES A. GARRITY.

James A. Garrity, a well-known and energetic young lawyer of Moorhead and local attorney there for the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Moorhead since entering upon the practice of his profession upon completing his studies at law school in 1913. He was born at Hudson, Wisconsin, July 24, 1892, son of Thomas Garrity and wife, and grew to manhood at that place. He was graduated from the Hudson high school in 1910 and afterward entered the St. Paul College of Law at St. Paul, from which institution he was graduated in 1913, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws, and was admitted to practice law.

In the December following his graduation from law school, Mr. Garrity located at Moorhead for the practice of his profession and, until September 1, 1915, was associated there in practice with Edgar E. Sharp. Upon the termination of that connection, Mr. Garrity formed a partnership for practice with Grover McGrath, a connection which was shortly afterward terminated, since which time he has maintained offices alone. In addition to his general practice, Mr. Garrity is the legal representative of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company at Moorhead. Since taking up his residence in Moorhead, he has given his thoughtful attention to the general affairs of this part of the state, and, as a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club, is doing all he can to advance the material interests

of his home town, of which he was elected city attorney on February 20, 1917.

Mr. Garrity is an earnest member of the Catholic church and is prominently affiliated with the local council of the Knights of Columbus and with the Catholic Order of Foresters. He also is a member of the local branch of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and in the affairs of these several organizations takes a warm interest.

On May 31, 1917, Mr. Garrity was united in marriage to Marguerita Evans, of Ottumwa, Iowa, the daughter of George W. and Regina Evans, the former being one of Iowa's prosperous farmers in Wapello county, that state. Mrs. Garrity was the teacher of domestic science in the public schools of Moorhead before her marriage.

OLE SKALET.

Ole Skalet, one of the best-known and most substantial first settlers of Clay county, general manager of the Ulen Grain Company at Ulen, president of Citizens Auto Company of Ulen, vice-president of the State Bank of Ulen, former president of that village, former chairman of the board of supervisors of Keene township, former assessor of that township and the owner there of four hundred and forty acres of fine land, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, a continuous resident of Clay county since he was twenty-one years of age, having come up here into the Red River country in 1883. He was born on a pioneer farm in Houston county on October 14, 1861, son of Knut and Helga (Olson) Skalet, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country in 1852 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling on a farm in Houston county, where they reared their family and spent the remainder of their lives, substantial and useful pioneers of that section. Knut Skalet and wife were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being: Gutrum, Helga, Mary, Anna, Knut, Gura, Berget, Andrew and Olaus.

Reared on the pioneer home farm in Houston county, Ole Skalet received his early education in the local schools, and from the days of his boyhood was a valued assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home farm, becoming practical manager of the same when in his teens. He continued to be thus engaged until he was twenty-one years of age,

when, in 1883, he came up into the Red River country and began working in Clay county. He married in 1885, and shortly afterward bought a farm in section 2 of Keene township, where he established his home, his first place of residence there being a humble shack, nine by eleven feet, enclosed in lap-siding, with but one door and one window. This is a distinct contrast to the present substantial farm house and excellent farm buildings that mark the Skalet farm. When Mr. Skalet took that tract, it was wholly unimproved and he "broke" every furrow and planted every tree on the place. As he prospered in his farming, he gradually added to his holdings until now he is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres surrounding the home place, and an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 4. The old original home shack on the home place is still standing, and Mr. Skalet is carefully preserving the same as an interesting relic of his experience as a pioneer farmer.

In 1901, Ole Skalet retired from the farm, leaving the same in responsible hands, and moved to Ulen, where he became engaged as local manager of the Monarch Elevator Company and was thus engaged until 1911, when he returned to the farm. The next year, however, he returned to Ulen and there bought the Great Western elevator and has ever since been operating the same, the elevator now being under the management of the Ulen Grain Company, of which Mr. Skalet is general manager, the company doing a general grain, coal and seed business. In addition to his interests in the grain and coal business, Mr. Skalet takes an active interest in the general business affairs of his home village, being president of the Citizens Auto Company of Ulen and vice-president of the State Bank of Ulen. He has ever taken an interested part in the civic affairs of the community and for six years served as president of the village council. During his residence in Keene township, he served for about five years as chairman of the board of township supervisors, and at the time of his removal to Ulen was serving as township assessor. He also served for several years as clerk of the local school board and in other ways has given of his time and energies to the public service. Mr. Skalet is a member of the Lutheran (Synod) church in Keene township. He helped build the church, being a member of the building committee when the church was erected, and for years served as a member of the board of trustees of the same.

In 1885, Ole Skalet was united in marriage to Martine Martinson, daughter of Carl Martinson and wife, who died in 1909, leaving nine children: Nedra, Charlotte, Charles, Ella, Hermana, Myrtle, Elvina, Olga and Carl.

M. J. SOLUM.

M. J. Solum, president of the Security State Bank of Hitterdal, clerk of Goose Prairie township, and for the past quarter of century actively engaged in the general hardware and farm-implement business at Hitterdal, one of the veteran business men of Clay county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Clay county since he was fifteen years of age, having come here in the year 1888. He was born on June 14, 1873, one of the three children born to John and Mette (Solum) Johnson, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives there.

When fifteen years of age M. J. Solum came to the United States in 1888, alone and proceeded on out to the Red River country in Minnesota, which then was attracting large numbers of settlers, making his home with some kinsfolk in the township of Tansem, in Clay county. He arrived there, owing sixty-five dollars of money advanced on his steamship ticket, and began working at farm labor, his first wages being eight or ten dollars a month. Later he learned the carpenter trade, at which he began working for seventy-five cents a day, his wages being gradually increased twenty-five cents a "raise" until he was receiving one dollar and seventy-five cents a day, the highest wages he ever received for a day's labor. During the winter of 1892-93, Mr. Solum took a course of instruction in Hope Academy at Moorhead; and in the fall of 1893, engaged in the hardware business at Hitterdal, erecting there a little store building, eighteen by twenty-four feet, and starting with a stock of goods valued at about two hundred and fifty dollars. From that small beginning Mr. Solum's present well-established and extensive business has had a continuous growth. From time to time, as the demands of his growing business required, he built additions on to his original store room and it was not long until he was doing a large business in the general hardware and farm-implement line. On January 3, 1914, his store was destroyed by fire, and in that same year he erected his present substantial store building of brick and cement blocks, the same being thirty-three by eighty feet, with a full basement, and at the same time added to his stock a full line of furniture. In addition to his mercantile business at Hitterdal, Mr. Solum has ever given his close attention to the general business affairs of the community. He was one of the organizers of the Security State Bank of Hitterdal, of which he has been president for the past ten years. It was also largely through his initiative that seven or eight years ago the present flourishing Solum

Elevator Company was organized. He also has given close attention to local civic affairs and for the past eight or nine years has been clerk of the township of Goose Prairie.

In the year 1896, about three years after embarking in business at Hitterdal, M. J. Solum was united in marriage to Anna Anderson, and to this union three children have been born, Norman, Mette and Raymond. Mr. and Mrs. Solum are members of the United Lutheran church at Hitterdal and take an active interest in the affairs of the same, Mr. Solum being the present secretary of the local congregation.

LUDVIG WALKER.

Ludvig Walker, one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of Kurtz township, owner of a full section of land of prime quality, was born in the kingdom of Norway on Christmas Eve, 1848. He is the son of Kristen and Brita (Marum) Walker, natives of Solvorn, Norway. The original family name was Walaker, which has been changed to Walker in recent years. Kristen Walker was born in 1809, and his wife, Brita (Marum) Walker, was born in 1809. They were the parents of the following children: Anna, a widow, now living in Norway; Lars, deceased, and Ludvig, the subject of this sketch.

Ludvig Walker was educated in the schools of Norway and worked for some time at farm labor. At the age of twenty-one he decided to seek his fortune in the United States and came to this country in 1869. On his arrival, he went to the state of Wisconsin and worked on farms for about seven or eight years. In 1878, he came to the state of Minnesota and settled in Clay county, where he has ever since been engaged in the active duties of farming and is recognized as one of the most progressive and substantial agriculturalists of Kurtz township. As he prospered in his labors, he added to his land holdings and is now the owner of six hundred and forty acres of prime land, one hundred acres of which is set out to the cultivation of potatoes. Mr. Walker carried out a series of systematic improvements on his farm, and his outbuildings and dwelling house are among the best in the district.

In 1883 Ludvig Walker was united in marriage to Carrie Grove, who was born in Minnesota in November, 1862. They are the parents of the following children: Annie, deceased; Thomas, Carl and Minnie, all living

at home with their parents. The Walker family are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which Mr. Walker has resided for nearly forty years. Mr. Walker is an independent in politics, and has served the public as township supervisor and as treasurer of the district school board. In addition to this, he has in other ways given of his time and ability to the furtherance of all movements having for their object the general good of the community.

GEORGE F. FUCHS.

Among the native-born German settlers of Clay county, who are engaged in agricultural pursuits, is George F. Fuchs, who was born in the Fatherland in 1863, but has been a resident of this country since he was seventeen years old. He is a son of Martin and Mary (Bick) Fuchs, also natives of Germany.

Martin Fuchs was born in Germany about the year 1842 and died there in 1872 at the early age of thirty. He was married to Mary Bick, who came to this country some three years after her son, George F., and spent her last days in this county, dying about 1913, after she had reached the advanced age of seventy-seven years. Martin Fuchs and wife were the parents of two children, Charlie W., deceased, and George F., the subject of this sketch.

George F. Fuchs was educated under the excellent school system prevailing in Germany and at the age of seventeen, in 1880, immigrated to the United States. He was but nine years old at the time of his father's death and the responsibility of doing for himself was early cast upon him. On his arrival in this country, he started for Ottawa, Illinois, and remained in that place for three years. He then moved to Chicago, that state, and work in that city for about seven years, at the end of which period he went to the state of Kansas and engaged in farm work for some twelve years. About 1902, Mr. Fuchs made a further change, coming to the state of Minnesota and settling in Clay county, where he has ever since been engaged in farming and has been very successful. He purchased land in Glyndon township, and, as he succeeded in his farming operations, he added to his holdings, and is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of fine land, the equal of any in the township. He follows general farming

and, at the present time, one of his important crops is potatoes, of which he has about sixty acres in cultivation. He is regarded as one of the progressive and substantial farmers, following modern methods in his work.

In 1887, George F. Fuchs was united in marriage to Lena Gutyahr, who was born in 1862. They are the parents of five children, as follow: George M., who is married; Carl F., Archie, Jennie and Emily, who are at home with their parents. The Fuchs family are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live. Mr. Fuchs gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs, having been treasurer of the school board for ten years and is now serving as township trustee, in which office he is giving general satisfaction.

ALFRED OSS.

Alfred Oss was born in Keene township, Clay county, Minnesota, March 27, 1893, a son of John and Johanna (Wenner) Oss, both natives of Norway.

John Oss came to America in 1882 and located in Atlanta township, Becker county, Minnesota, where he engaged in farming. In 1886, he came to Keene township, Clay county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of government land. He built him a home and improved this land and continued to live there until 1896, when he returned to Becker county, Minnesota, and bought a farm of eighty acres. Later he sold this farm and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 33, Atlanta township, where he lived, actively engaged in farming until 1914, when he sold out and removed to Hitterdal, Clay county. For fourteen years, while living in Becker county, he was county surveyor; he also served twenty years on the school board, and for two years as township assessor. A more extended sketch of John Oss appears in another place in this work.

Alfred Oss was educated in the public schools of Atlanta township, Clay county. He learned the barber trade, when a young man, and followed that occupation for three years. In 1915, he and his sister, Helga, started a general grocery store at Hitterdal, which they operated jointly until his sister married Julius Schloesser, and then he assumed entire control of the business. Mr. Oss was appointed postmaster in 1914 and now holds that position. On October 5, 1915, he married Lillian Tingdahl, daughter of Theodore Tingdahl. Mr. Oss is a member of the Synod Lutheran church.

HENRY SCHROEDER.

Henry Schroeder, who began his active life in an humble way, now president of the First National Bank at Moorhead, also interested in other banking institutions, and owner of extensive land holdings in and about Clay county, is a native-born German, but has been living in this county since 1871. He was born in Renesburg, Holstein, Germany, August 31, 1855, a son of Henry and Wilhelmina (May) Schroeder, both of whom were natives of that same country and there spent all their lives.

The senior Henry Schroeder was engaged in the tannery business in his native land, and had followed that occupation during all of his active life, the tannery still being carried on by his son, Adolph. The elder Henry Schroeder died in Germany before the subject of this sketch came to America. Wilhelmina Schroeder, his wife, died the summer after her son, Henry, immigrated to this country. The tannery has been in the possession of the Schroeder family for upwards of one hundred years. To Henry Schroeder and wife three children were born, namely: Adolph, who still operates the tannery in Germany; Emil, who came to America about 1867, now living in San Francisco, where he is engaged in the fur-dyeing and dressing business; and Henry, the subject of this review. The parents of these children were members of the German Lutheran church.

Henry Schroeder attended the excellent schools provided by the educational system of Germany and received a very thorough education. He came to the United States in 1871 and proceeded out to Benson, Minnesota, which town was then the terminus of the Great Northern railroad. From this point he started out on an eighty-mile walk, going north to Alexandria, the journey occupying a few days, to join an uncle. While living at the latter place he worked on farms during the summers, going for that purpose to different parts of southern Minnesota. When winter would set in he generally returned to Alexandria, and north of that town he spent most of the winter seasons hunting and trapping, still continuing to reside with his uncle, and during a portion of the time he lived in a very rude shack.

In 1878 Henry Schroeder left Alexandria and came to Wadena, accompanying the mail carrier on the journey. From Wadena he traveled on to Glyndon, Clay county, via the Northern Pacific railroad, and then walked to where Sabin now is, most of the way being partly under water. He purchased a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Elmwood township, Clay county. He then returned during the next winter, going on foot,



MISS MARY E. BROWN



HENRY SCHROEDER.

to Alexandria and there bought a team of horses, which he brought back to Elmwood township, the following January. In the preceding summer he had purchased oxen near Sabin and used them to break the land for tillage. He continued at the laborious task of breaking and clearing the land on his tree claim, and finally got it fit for the planting of crops. Later, he added forty acres to the tree-claim holding and still lives on that farm, where he was first housed in a small shack, which had been standing up to a recent date.

Prosperity attended Mr. Schroeder's efforts from the very start. He became an extensive farmer and potato grower. He is now the owner of two thousand six hundred acres of prime land, one thousand acres of which is lying near Sabin and sixteen hundred acres near Glyndon, Clay county. He has effected numerous costly and substantial improvements on his various tracts of land, the entire amount so expended being seventy-five thousand dollars. He erected warehouses at Watts and Sabin, and bought potatoes for some years, storing them in these warehouses, but the latter he now operates for his own use. In addition to his vast land holdings Mr. Schroeder is connected with banking. He is now the president of the First National Bank of Moorhead, which institution has flourished under his wise guidance. In 1908 he helped to organize the First State Bank of Sabin, and is also the president of that thriving bank. He is also interested in the operations of other banks, principally as a stockholder, and is recognized throughout the entire county as one of the foremost bankers in this part of the state, as well as being one of the most substantial landowners in the county.

In 1879 Henry Schroeder was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Krabbenhoft, who was born in Germany, a daughter of Wolf Krabbenhoft and wife, also natives of Germany. Her parents were farmers in their native land. They immigrated to the United States in 1874, coming on the same ship which had brought Mr. Schroeder three years earlier. On their arrival in this country they came on out to Minnesota and located near Sabin, Clay county, and bought land on which they carried on general farming for several years, later dying in the vicinity where they had settled. They were members of the German Lutheran church. Their eldest son, W. C., who had come to America some couple of years before them, is still living near Sabin. Mr. and Mrs. Krabbenhoft, were the parents of the following children: W. C., Chris, Eliza, Anna, Henry O., Wilhelmina and Henry. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder the following children were born: E. C., Theo, Minnie, Emma, Ernest, Irene, Erhart and Henry. Mrs.

Schroeder passed away on April 5, 1917, and was buried in the German Evangelical Lutheran cemetery at Sabin on April 8. The Schroeder family are earnest members of the German Lutheran church and are active workers in all church affairs, warmly interested in all that concerns the welfare of the community, where during their long years of residence they have been universally esteemed and regarded as representing the highest type of citizens. In politics, Mr. Schroeder is a supporter of the Republican party, but has never been a seeker after public office, preferring to devote his time and energies to his commercial, banking and land-holding interests.

ANDREW EGGIMAN

Among the native-born Swiss who have come to America and engaged in general farming with considerable success in Elmwood township, Clay county, is Andrew Eggiman, who was born in the republic of Switzerland, August 24, 1869. He is the son of John and Anna (Merkendahl) Eggiman, also natives of the same country, the former of whom is now about seventy years old, but the son, Andrew, has not heard from his father or mother for some twenty years. John and Anna Eggiman are parents of three children, namely: Anna and Elsie, who are living in Switzerland, and Andrew, the subject of this sketch. The members of the Eggiman family in the old country are members of the Lutheran church. The parents came from a long line of ancestors, noted for upright lives in the part of their native country in which they lived.

Andrew Eggiman attended the schools of his home district in Switzerland, and when he reached the age of twenty-three in 1892, he immigrated to the United States. On arriving in this country, he went on out to Livingston, Illinois, where he was employed at farming work for two years. At the end of that period, he went to Calhoun county, Iowa, where he also engaged in the labors of the farm, living in that state for nine years. He then decided to acquire land for himself and, with that purpose in view, came to Minnesota in 1900, and settled in Elmwood township, Clay county. Here he is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of choice land, which has been placed in a high state of cultivation. He has placed important and valuable improvements on his farm, on which his operations are very successful. When Mr. Eggiman assumed possession of his farm, a house stood on the land, but this he has torn down and a new and substantial dwelling erected

in its place; here he and his family are comfortably and pleasantly situated.

On February 9, 1895, Andrew Eggiman was united in marriage to Anna Nyfler, a daughter of Jacob Nyfler and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Eggiman are the parents of the following children: William, Martha, Walter, Herman and Rudolph, all of whom are living at home with their parents. Andrew Eggiman and his family are members of the Presbyterian church, and he is a Republican in politics.

HALDOR P. NYGAARD.

Haldor P. Nygaard, former president of the village of Halstad, former recorder and treasurer of the same, former justice of the peace, present secretary of the local school board, secretary of the local creamery company and head of the firm of Nygaard & Hostad, retail dealers in meats at Halstad, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Norman county since the days of his childhood. He was born in the city of Trondhjem on May 30, 1871, son of P. J. and Jonette (Moen) Nygaard, natives of that same country, who came to Minnesota in 1881 with their family and settled in Hendrum township, Norman county, remaining there on a farm until the station at Halstad was established, when, in 1883, they moved to that place, where Mrs. Nygaard spent her last days and where Mr. Nygaard is still living, an honored pioneer of Norman county.

P. J. Nygaard was a carpenter in his native land and he built for himself one of the first houses erected in Halstad, besides building many other houses there in an early day. On April 9, 1910, he and his wife celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, about sixty guests being present, besides six of their children, forty-three grand-children and one great-grandchild. Mr. Nygaard now has fifty-one grandchildren and fourteen great-grand-children. To him and his wife eight children were born, all of whom are living save Ole, the last-born, who died in 1883, the others being Jacob, Ingeborg, Hansine, Haldor and John P.

Haldor P. Nygaard was ten years of age when his parents came to Minnesota and he grew to manhood at Halstad, early learning the carpenter trade under the skillful direction of his father. Upon completing the course in the local public schools he took a course at Concordia College at Moorhead, and upon leaving school engaged in the carpenter trade and was thus engaged at Halstad for ten years. In 1900 he started a meat market at Hal-

stad in partnership with S. Forseth and that connection continued for a couple of years, at the end of which time Forseth sold his interest in the business to A. Melting, who remained a partner of Mr. Nygaard until 1908, when he sold his interest to A. M. Hostad and the business has since then been continued under the firm name of Nygaard & Hostad. Mr. Nygaard has ever taken an active interest in local affairs and particularly in the affairs of the village schools, in the upbuilding of which no one has been more enthusiastically attentive than he, it being generally admitted that the present splendid school in the village owes its present form largely to his long-continued, energetic and unselfish service in that behalf. He has been a member of the local school board since 1897 and is now the efficient secretary of the board. In other ways Mr. Nygaard has devoted much time and labor to the public welfare and has long been accounted one of Halstad's most public-spirited citizens. He has served as a member of the village council, was for two terms president of the same and has also served as village recorder, as treasurer and as justice of the peace. He has ever been active in promoting local enterprises and is now the secretary of the local creamery company.

In 1906 Haldor P. Nygaard was united in marriage to Hansine Grendstad, and to this union seven children have been born, Percival H., Elmer, Julia B., Amanda Belinda, Oliver, Herman and Ethel Victoria. Mr. and Mrs. Nygaard are members of the United Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take a warm interest, as well as in the general social activities of their home town, and Mr. Nygaard for some years has been a member of the board of trustees of the church.

EDWIN ADAMS.

Edwin Adams, one of the well-known and successful attorneys and prominent business men of Moorhead, Clay county, was born in Lanark county, Ontario, Canada, on July 19, 1852, a son of Daniel Adams and wife, both natives of the Dominion of Canada, where they received their education in the public schools, and lived their lives, they having died in the land of their nativity some years ago. The paternal grandfather, Joshua Adams, was a native of Vermont and was a captain in the British Army, during the time of the Revolutionary War. After that memorable conflict, he located in Canada, where he established his home and continued to live

until the time of his death. Daniel Adams, as a young man, engaged in the milling business and in time became the owner of a saw, flouring and a woolen mill, in the operation of which he met with success. He and his father, during the time of the McKenzie Rebellion in the year 1837, took an active part in assisting the government to quell the disturbance. The family were ever prominent in local affairs, and were active in the social and religious life of the community where they lived, being held in high regard and esteem by all.

Edwin Adams received his education in the schools of Ontario and there he grew to manhood. He later studied law in the office of T. B. Pardee and others in Ontario, after which he came to the United States and established himself at St. Paul, Minnesota, where he was with the Omaha Railroad Company for one and a half years. He came to Moorhead, Minnesota, in the year 1881, and, on July 13 of that year, entered the employ of H. G. Finkle in the mercantile and grain business, remaining until 1884. His desire had been to engage in the practice of the law, and in the last year mentioned above opened an office at Hawley, where he practiced with success until 1892, when he returned to Moorhead, becoming cashier of the First National Bank. Sometime later he opened a law office and has since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. In connection with his legal practice, he is engaged in the insurance and real-estate business, and is today regarded as one of the successful and substantial men in his line of work in the state. His careful businesslike methods have won for him a large circle of friends and clients, who regard him as a man of the highest integrity.

It was in the year 1892 that Edwin Adams was united in marriage to Georgia Axtel of Troy, Pennsylvania, and to this union the following children have been born: E. Maurice, Helen M., John C., Grace E., Alan K., Henry A., and Laura C., all of whom are now living.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams are active members of the Episcopal church and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of their home town. Their interests have ever been for the betterment and the growth of the district in which they have lived, and their best efforts have ever been exerted in the promotion of those enterprises that would tend to the substantial growth and improvement of the city of Moorhead and the surrounding country. They have had much to do with the high sentiment of their city in its educational and moral development.

Mr. Adams is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, the Royal Arcanum, the Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Commercial

Club. He has never been a seeker after office, yet he has taken the keenest interest in local affairs and has had much to do with the civic life of the district. While living in Canada, he was a member of the Canadian Volunteers and saw active service in the Fenian Raid, and held a commission as lieutenant. Mr. Adams is a man of much force of character and is a leader in the various organizations of which he is a member. He has lived a useful and active life and is today known as one of the prominent men of Moorhead.

FRANK P. THOMPSON.

Frank P. Thompson, proprietor of a well-kept farm in Elmwood township, Clay county, and one of the pioneers of that neighborhood, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark, but has been a resident of this county since he was nineteen years of age and of Minnesota since 1880, the year in which he homesteaded the tract on which he is now living and where he has made his home since his marriage in the year following his location there. He was born in 1852, son of Peter and Cecelia (Johanson) Thompson, also natives of Denmark, industrious farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land.

Reared on the home farm in Denmark, Frank P. Thompson received his schooling in his native schools and he remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when, in 1871, he came to the United States and located at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where for two years thereafter he was engaged working in the lumber mills and in the big timber adjacent to that place. He then went to Okoma, in that same state, and a short time afterward went over into the big timber region of Michigan, where he worked for some time in the lumber woods. He then returned to Wisconsin and located at Oshkosh, where he became acquainted with Thomas McCabe and in 1880 the two of them came over into this part of Minnesota and homesteaded neighboring quarter sections in Elmwood township, Clay county. In the next year, 1881, Mr. Thompson married and established his home on his quarter section, but Mr. McCabe did not settle on his tract until after his marriage in 1883. The old neighbors are still living alongside each other and the fine neighborly relations established back in the days of their pioneering together have remained altogether amicable and wholly undisturbed all these years; the fine friendship which sprang up between the two young men from a foreign shore, for Mr. McCabe also is of European birth, a

native of the Emerald Isle, remaining as firm as in the days when it was cemented by their mutual interest upon coming up here into the Red River country to look for homes. Mr. Thompson has improved his place in admirable shape and has been quite successful in his operations, for years having been regarded as one of the most substantial farmers in that neighborhood.

In 1881 Frank P. Thompson was united in marriage to Katie A. Galligan, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and to this union five children have been born, Stephen, Thomas, Marie, Marjorie and Katheryn, all of whom are living. The Thompsons have a very pleasant home on their well-kept farm and from the days of the beginning of their residence there have ever given their thoughtful attention to the general improvement of the community in which they have lived since the days of the pioneers.

JOHN CONNELLY.

John Connelly, proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred acres in Glyndon township, and one of the best-known young farmers in that part of Clay county, was born on a pioneer farm in that township on April 10, 1883, son of Patrick and Bridget (Lundy) Connelly, natives of Ireland, who became pioneers of this section of Minnesota and the latter of whom is still living on the old homestead farm in Glyndon township, where the family settled about the year 1880.

It was in 1877 that Patrick Connelly and his wife came to the United States from their native Ireland and located in New York City. Not long afterward they moved to Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1879, Patrick Connelly started West on a prospecting tour and his good fortune directed his way up here into the Red River country, his destination being Moorhead. Becoming deeply impressed with the possibilities of this region, Mr. Connelly returned East and in the fall of that same year brought his family here and located at Moorhead. Three years later, he settled on the farm in Glyndon township, where he established his permanent home and where he spent the rest of his life, a well-to-do farmer, his death occurring there on May 12, 1912. Patrick Connelly from the very beginning of his residence there took an active part in local civic affairs and for fifteen years, or more, served his home township in the important capacity of a member of the board of supervisors, and in other ways contributed of his time and his energies to the public service. He and his wife were

members of the Catholic church and took an active part in local parish affairs. They were the parents of three sons, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, William and James Connelly, who are still living on the old home place with their widowed mother.

John Connelly was reared on the home farm in Glyndon township and attended the common schools of that neighborhood. As a youth, he learned the carpenter trade and worked at the same until 1909, two years after his marriage, when he bought a quarter of a section of land in Glyndon township, not far from his old home, and has ever since made that place his home. In 1914, he bought an adjoining tract of two hundred acres and is very successful in his farming operations, being regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood.

On February 27, 1907, John Connelly was united in marriage to Maime Krabbenhoft, who was born in Elmwood township, Clay county, daughter of W. C. Krabbenhoft and wife, pioneers of that township and further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work. To this union three children have been born, Lawrence, Edna and Helen. Mr. and Mrs. Connelly have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they have lived all their lives. Mr. Connelly is a member of the Masonic lodge at Moorhead and of the Modern Woodmen of America at that place. In the affairs of both of these organizations he takes a warm interest.

EDWIN C. BENEDICT.

Edwin C. Benedict, clerk of Glyndon township, Clay county, and one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of that part of the county, is a native of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Clay county since he was seventeen years of age, his parents having settled here in 1887. He was born at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, January 19, 1870, son of Stephen D. and Sarah F. (Pride) Benedict, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Maine, who were married in Wisconsin and later came to Minnesota, becoming pioneers of Clay county, where the former died, the latter going to California, where her last days were spent.

Stephen D. Benedict, who was an honored veteran of the Civil War, was but a child when his parents moved from Ohio to Wisconsin, becoming pioneers of the Oshkosh neighborhood, where he was reared on a pioneer

farm. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted for service as a member of Company C, Fourteenth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, and with that command served for four years and three months, during which long period of service he never was wounded nor taken prisoner. After the war Mr. Benedict continued for some time in service, on guard duty, and upon the completion of his military service returned to his home in Wisconsin, where he presently married Sarah F. Pride, who was born in the state of Maine and who was but a girl when her parents came over into the northwest and settled in the vicinity of Oshkosh. After his marriage Mr. Benedict continued to make his home in Wisconsin until 1887, in which year he moved with his family over into Minnesota and bought a homestead right to a quarter of a section of land in Alliance township, Clay county, which he "proved up" and improved and to which he added by later purchase until he became the owner of six hundred and forty acres there, one of the best farms in that part of the county, and on that place he spent his last days. His widow later moved to California, where her last days were spent. Stephen D. Benedict took an active part in local civic affairs and for some years served as assessor of Alliance township. He and his wife had three children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Mabel, wife of Henry Legler, of Blackduck, up in Beltrami county, and a brother, Henry Benedict, of Oakland, California.

As noted above, Edwin C. Benedict was seventeen years of age when he came into the Red River country with his parents in 1887, the family settling in Clay county, and he at once became an active factor in the labors of developing and improving the home place in Alliance township. After his marriage ten years later he rented the home place and operated the same for four years, at the end of which time he bought the place on which he is now living, in Glyndon township, and has since made his home there. He has done well in his operations there and has increased his holdings until now he is the owner of nine hundred and twenty acres and has long been regarded as one of the most substantial citizens of that part of the county. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Benedict gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock and makes a specialty of his fine Percheron horses. His place is improved in admirable shape and he has one of the best farm plants in Clay county. The year in which he moved to Glyndon township Mr. Benedict was elected township clerk and by successive re-elections has ever since been retained in that office, giving his most thoughtful and intelligent attention to local civic affairs. He likewise gives his interested attention to the general business affairs of the community and is a stockholder in

the Equity packing plant at Fargo and in the creamery plant at Moorhead.

On November 10, 1897, Edwin C. Benedict was united in marriage to Katherine Wiedeman, daughter of Ewald Wiedeman and wife, of Clay county, and to this union ten children have been born, Mabel, Ewald, Lila, Esther, Alice, Ethel, Frances, Edwin, George and Edith, all of whom are living. The Benedicts have a very pleasant home on their fine farm and have ever given their proper attention to the general social activities and good works of the community in which they live, helpful in many ways in promoting movements designed to advance the common good thereabout.

HENRY GRETNUM

One of the most promising of the younger farmers of Clay county is Henry Grettum, who lives on the farm on which he was born in Ulen township. He has been wise in remaining on the homestead where he has found all the opportunities necessary for a successful career as a tiller of the soil. Too many of our farmer boys hasten away to some distant city to start their careers. The life of the average farmer is more satisfactory in many respects than that of his city brother.

Mr. Grettum was born on May 11, 1891, in Ulen township, Clay county, a son of John and Bertha (Klemmetson) Grettum, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, but were still single when they immigrated to America. They were married in Houston county, Minnesota, where he had settled in the seventies. John Grettum worked as a farm hand until 1882, when he came to Clay county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Ulen township, where he has since made his home. He developed the raw land into a good farm, placing it under excellent improvements, including the erection of a substantial group of buildings. He has engaged in general farming and stock raising. His wife died in 1915. She was a member of the Lutheran church to which he also belongs. He was treasurer of the school board in his district for a number of years. To John Grettum and wife six children were born, namely: Clara, Julius, Selma, Clarence, Henry and Helen, all of whom are living at this writing.

Henry Grettum received his education in the district schools. He has always lived on the home farm, which he has been managing successfully since 1916. He received excellent training under his father and is a student

of modern methods of agriculture. He feeds much of the grain the place produces to live stock, fattening large numbers of cattle and hogs for the market annually. He has remained unmarried. He has been treasurer of the local school district for two years. Politically, he is a Republican.

JOHN HENRY FREEMAN.

John Henry Freeman, manager of the *Moorhead News*, is a native of the state of Illinois, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was a child, having been but four years of age when his parents settled at Moorhead. He was born at Rockford, Illinois, May 27, 1878, son of C. W. and Anna M. (Blomquist) Freeman, who came to Minnesota in March, 1882, and settled in Moorhead, where they since have made their home.

In 1907 John H. Freeman became proprietor of the *Moorhead Independent* and continued as the publisher of that paper until 1911, in which year he disposed of his paper and was thereafter engaged in operating a job-printing plant in Fargo, North Dakota, until in April, 1916, when he was engaged as manager by the Moorhead News Company, of which he is one of the stockholders.

LEWIS LOFGREN.

Lewis Lofgren, cashier of the First National Bank of Ulen and one of the most active real-estate dealers and promoters of immigration in Clay county, is a native of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was four years of age. He was born on March 12, 1864, son of Olaf and Margaret (Johnson) Lofgren, also natives of the kingdom of Sweden, who came to the United States with their family in 1868 and settled in Trempealeau county, Wisconsin. Two years later, in 1870, they came over into Minnesota and located on a homestead quarter section in Pope county, between Glenwood and Sauk Center, remaining there until their retirement from the farm and removal in 1908 to Duluth, where both are now living. To Olaf Lofgren and wife were born seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth; the others being: Charles J., August, Julius, Fred, Melvin and Clara L.

As noted above, Lewis Lofgren was but four years of age when he came with his parents to this country and was but six when they moved

from Wisconsin to Pope county, this state. He grew to manhood on the home farm in the latter county, a valued assistant to his father and elder brother in the labors of improving and developing the home place. He supplemented the schooling he received in the local schools by attendance at the high school at Sauk Center and at a business college at La Crosse, Wisconsin. In the meantime, his elder brother, Charles J. Lofgren, had become engaged in the drug business at Sauk Center and, upon leaving the business college, Lewis Lofgren became engaged as prescription and general clerk in his brother's store, continuing thus engaged for three years. At the end of that period, in 1886, he transferred his services to the Bank of Park River at Park River, North Dakota, and was there employed as book-keeper and assistant cashier until 1890, when he returned to Minnesota and became engaged as assistant cashier in the bank of his brother, Charles J. Lofgren, at Ada, now the First National Bank, and was thus engaged there until 1892. In that year, he went to the coast and for two years thereafter was employed in a bank at Sumas City, Washington. In 1894 Mr. Lofgren returned to the place he had left in the bank at Ada and remained there until 1897, when he went to Chicago and was for a year engaged in the manufacturing business in that city. He then returned to the bank at Ada and was there again employed until in June, 1899, when he was elected cashier of the State Bank of Ulen and moved to that village, where he has since resided. In December, 1903, the State Bank of Ulen was reorganized and was rechartered as the First National Bank of Ulen, Mr. Lofgren being retained as cashier of the same, a position he still occupies, one of the best-known bankers in this part of the state. Since taking up his residence in Ulen, Mr. Lofgren has been also actively engaged in the general real-estate business, with particular reference to farm lands, and in that capacity has done much to stimulate immigration to this part of the state, having encouraged many settlers to locate in this region.

In the year 1897 Lewis Lofgren was united in marriage to Charlotte C. Irwin, and to this union five children have been born: Lowell L., Margaret L., Lawrence, Mildred and Charles. The Lofgrens have a very pleasant home at Ulen and take an interested part in the general social activities of the community. Mr. Lofgren is a member of the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest. He gives careful attention to the general business and civic activities of his home village and of the county at large, and has long been regarded as one of Clay county's "live wires."

JENS LARSON.

Jens Larson, a substantial and progressive farmer, the owner of large tracts of land in Clay county, former treasurer of the township school board, and otherwise identified with public affairs, was born in the kingdom of Sweden, but has been living in the United States for the past thirty years, having immigrated from his native land in 1887. He is the son of Lars and Anna Fireson, also born in Sweden and who spent their last days in that country.

Lars Fireson was educated in the schools of his native land, following which he engaged in farming and continued thus occupied during the years of his active life, his death occurring in 1902, when he had reached the age of seventy-seven years. His wife, Anna Fireson, died in 1912 at the advanced age of eighty-five years. They were the parents of the following children: Peter and John, living in this country; Torkel, who lives in Sweden; Johanna, the wife of Ingle Christianson, and who lives in Sweden; Marie, who married Nels Pearson and lives in Haver, Montana, and Jens, the subject of this sketch.

Jens Larson was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm, where he was an able assistant in the work of the farm. In 1887, he left Sweden and came to this country, locating in Clay county, Minnesota, where he settled in section 16, Hawley township. There he bought two hundred acres of land, which he continued to operate for several years and which he still owns. His first venture in farming in the new country proving successful, he continued to add to his land holdings and in 1902 he bought a tract of two hundred and sixty-seven acres in section 8, Hawley township. Mr. Larson and his sons now own among them about one thousand acres of the choicest land to be found in the township. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, having an excellent herd of Shorthorn cattle, and since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his farms being in good order and condition. He has entirely remodeled some of the outbuildings and erected new ones, including potato storage accommodation and additions to the dwelling house. He allots about seventy acres to the cultivation of potatoes and is generally regarded as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of the township.

In November, 1889, Jens Larson was united in marriage to Anna (Thysell) Tolson. Mrs. Larson had been married before, the first husband

being Andrew Tolson, who died in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1888. There were no children born to this union. Mrs. Larson was born in Sweden in February, 1867, and came to America twenty years afterward, in 1887. She was the daughter of Andreas and Emma (Helstrom) Thysell, both natives of Sweden, where the father died in 1901. The mother, who survived the father, came to America in 1906 to join her children, all of whom have come to this country except one, Albion, who still resides in Sweden; the others are: Anna, the wife of the subject of this review; August, who was drowned near Portland, Oregon; Tilda, the wife of John Larson, living near St. Cloud, Minnesota; Nels, who resides in Hawley, and Carl, living in Hawley township. Andreas and Emma Thysell were devout and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, rearing their children in that faith. Jens and Anna Larson are the parents of eleven children all of whom are living: Lewis, Edward, who owns eighty acres and rents a half section; Anna, Carl, Hilda, Selma, Clarence, Victor, Vendal, Oscar and Ida. Mr. Larson takes a good citizen's interest in the local civic affairs and in the general conditions of the community in which he lives. He served on the township board and as supervisor for ten years, and was treasurer of the school board for two terms. In these representative positions he rendered a good account of himself, serving the people with fidelity and ability.

JENS WINJUM, JR.

If the husbandman is fortunate enough to have the true vision of farming and starts out to make it a reality, he will certainly find this business a most profitable one. He will urge the backward acres of his farm into activity that will make them produce abundantly, keep a good grade of live stock and use the most modern implements. Such a man is Jens Winjum, Jr., of Goose Prairie township, Clay county.

Mr. Winjum was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, February 21, 1871, a son of Jens, Sr., and Margaretta Winjum, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, finally coming to America and locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. The mother died in 1905 at the age of sixty years. The father was twenty years old when he came to America, coming at once to Fillmore county, this state, where he worked out as a farm hand. He came up to Clay county in 1871 and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Highland Grove township, being one of the pioneers of

the county, and there he followed general farming successfully for a period of about forty years. He added to his original holdings by buying eighty-six acres and, later, one hundred and sixty more. He became one of the leading farmers of his township and was influential there in the early history of the locality. He finally sold out and moved to Norman county, where he has since lived retired, after many years of hard work, at the age of seventy-four years. His family consists of nine children, namely: Ella and Louise, who are both dead; Andrew, who owns and operates a farm in Norman county, Minnesota; Clara, Anna, Mary and Sam, all four of whom are deceased, and Jens, Jr., of this sketch, the youngest of the family.

Jens Winjum, Jr., who was an infant when his parents brought him here from Fillmore county, grew to manhood on the home farm where he assisted with the general work during crop seasons, and in the winter time he attended the district schools. When a young man, he began farming for himself, and in 1897 bought his present farm of two hundred acres, one hundred and sixty acres in section 21, Goose Prairie township and forty acres in section 5, Highland Grove township. It was all wild land, and he worked hard putting it under its present high state of cultivation and development. He has erected a substantial and convenient set of buildings, set out a grove, and added other excellent improvements, and has one of the choice farms in his locality. He raises wheat, oats and flax, principally, and also sends large numbers of cattle and hogs to the market every year. He is one of the leading farmers of his vicinity. He is a stockholder and director in the State Bank at Hitterdal.

Mr. Winjum was married June 1, 1898, to Jennie Iverson, who was born in Norway, December 8, 1880. She came to America with her parents when fourteen years old, the family locating near Hitterdal, Clay county, Minnesota, where Mr. Iverson bought a farm. He carried on general farming there until a few years ago, when he sold part of the farm and moved to the village of Hitterdal, where he and his wife are now living in retirement. To Mr. and Mrs. Winjum, six children have been born, all of whom are living; they are: Clara, now (1917) eighteen years old, who is attending the State Normal school at Moorhead, and expects to become a teacher; Ella, aged fourteen; George, who has reached the age of thirteen; Arnt, who has passed his tenth birthday; Norman, who has attained the age of eight; and Murkle, who is now six years old.

Politically, Mr. Winjum is an independent. He served as assessor of Goose Prairie township for six or seven years, but is not now incumbent

of this office. He took the census for the government of Goose Prairie and Keene townships in 1910, and is at present a director on the school board in his district. He belongs to the Lutheran church, in which he is a trustee.

LARS B. LARSON.

Lars B. Larson, one of the real pioneers of Norman county and a well-known and substantial retired farmer of Halstad township, now living in the pleasant village of Halstad, has been a resident of this section of the state from the days of the beginning of permanent settlement up this way, having come here before the city of Moorhead had been laid out and some years before the city of Ada even had been projected in the mind of man. In those days the old Hudson Bay Company was still doing a thriving business in furs throughout this section of the country and for some time after taking his homestead here Mr. Larson found profitable incidental employment as a freighter in the service of that company. When settlers began coming in and there were enough of them in the vicinity of the location of Mr. Larson's place to effect a township organization he took an active part in the organization of Halstad township and afterward served for some time as a member of the board of township supervisors and for two years as chairman of the board, while in other ways he performed well his part in the general development of this section in pioneer days.

Lars B. Larson was born in the kingdom of Norway on January 18, 1846, son of Bjorn and Ingeborg (Johnson) Larson, natives of that same country, who came to the United States with their family in 1854 and located in LaSalle county, Illinois, whence, two years later, in 1856, they came to Minnesota and settled in Fillmore county, where they remained until along in the middle or later seventies, when they came up to this part of the state, whence their son, the subject of this sketch, had preceded them some years before, and located in Halstad township, Norman county, where they spent their last days. Bjorn Larson was a substantial pioneer farmer. Though reared a Lutheran, he died in the faith of the Methodist church. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Andrew B., Martha B., B. B., Lena, Daniel, Eli, William and Christen.

Eight years of age when he came with his parents to this country, Lars B. Larson completed his schooling in the schools of Fillmore county, this



LARS E. LARSON AND FAMILY.

state, and there grew to manhood on the farm on which his parents had settled, farming on his own account after he had attained his majority. In 1871 he married and in that same year he and his wife came up to this part of the state, thus being among the very first permanent settlers in this section. That was one year before Clay county was organized as a separate civic body and ten years before the organization of Norman county, Moorhead, the county seat of Clay county, not being founded until a year after he came up here and Ada, seat of Norman county, not for some years afterward. Upon coming up here Mr. Larson entered a quarter of a section of land, a portion of which was situated in section 13 of what later came to be organized as Halstad township and the remainder in section 18 of the adjoining township, establishing his home on that portion in section 13. When the "odd" sections later were set off to the state to be held in trust for the promotion of railroad building, Mr. Larson was required to buy that portion of his homestead lying in section 13. Mr. Larson and his wife drove through from Fillmore county with two ox-teams, two cows, two calves and two sheep, a wagonload of household goods and essential farming implements, one sack of flour and five dollars in cash. During the first year of his residence here Mr. Larson was able to add to his small supply of cash by doing some freighting for the Hudson Bay Company, which at that time was still doing an extensive business in the Red River valley. As he gradually prospered in his farming operations Mr. Larson added to his land holdings until he became the owner of four hundred and seventy-five acres of excellent land and was counted one of the substantial pioneer residents of that section. He continued to make his home on the farm until 1896, when he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Halstad, where he since has made his home. In 1912 he bought a furniture store in that village, but after conducting the same for about three years again retired and is now taking things easy again. As noted above, Mr. Larson was one of the organizers of Halstad township and served for years as member of the board of supervisors of the same, for two years serving as chairman of the board. He is a member of the Methodist church and has ever given his earnest attention to neighborhood good works and in other ways has been helpful in bringing his home township to its present high state of development.

Lars B. Larson has been twice married. It was on January 18, 1871, the year in which he moved to this part of the state, that he was united in marriage, in Fillmore county, to Anna K. Faae, who shared with him the

trials and privations of a life on the frontier and who died in 1896, after a residence of more than twenty-five years in Halstad township. To that union seven children were born, Bernhardt, Emma, Isabel, Theodore, Clara, Emelia and Lawrence. On January 2, 1907, Mr. Larson married Betsie Bloom, who died on July 10, 1915.

W. L. SPOTTS.

W. L. Spotts, postmaster at Dilworth and a well-known railway conductor in the service of the Northern Pacific, was born in Sterling, Illinois, August 7, 1869, a son of Adam and Margaret (Lichtenwalter) Spotts, who were both natives of Ohio, the father having been born in Akron and the mother, in Massilon, that state.

Adam Spotts was a farmer in Ohio. Later he removed to Sterling, Illinois, where he lived and followed the same occupation for several years. In 1880 he removed to Fargo, North Dakota, and entered one hundred and sixty acres of land near that place under the homestead law. He improved this land and maintained his home there until about 1886, when he removed to Oberon, North Dakota, and made a pre-emption and tree-claim entry of three hundred and twenty acres. He farmed this for a number of years and then returned to Fargo where he continued to live until his death, which occurred in August, 1916. Adam Spotts was the father of six children: Ella, Laura, Emma, William L., Herbert F. and Jennie. He was an active member of the Congregational church and was for many years a deacon in the Plymouth church of that denomination in Fargo.

William L. Spotts was educated in the public schools of Sterling, Illinois. In his young manhood he was employed as a salesman for the Lager Furniture Company, at Fargo, and continued with that firm for six years. He was then with the American Express Company for two years, and then entered the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company as a brakeman. He continued with this company for several years, working his way up to the position of conductor. He was conductor on this road running out of Fargo, for about twelve years; then came to Dilworth, in 1904, and took a position as conductor on the Northern Pacific railroad, a position which he still holds. In 1916 Mr. Spotts was appointed postmaster of Dilworth but did not give up his railroad position. He still

runs as conductor on the Northern Pacific, while his wife, as assistant postmaster, attends to the postoffice.

In 1892 W. L. Spotts and Minnie J. Plummer were united in marriage. To this union two children have been born, William P., who is in the United States navy, and Margaret. They are members of the Christian Science church at Fargo. The Order of Railway Conductors is Mr. Spotts's only lodge affiliation.

HERBERT F. BURRILL.

Herbert F. Burrill, well-known contractor and builder, of Hawley, Clay county, was born in Framingham, Massachusetts, January 24, 1853. He is a son of Jacob and Rachael (Bennett) Burrill and a brother of H. R. Burrill, sketches of whom will be found in another part of this volume.

Herbert F. Burrill received his education in the public schools of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire. As a boy he worked in a woodenware factory at Fitzwilliam, then worked in a flouring-mill for two years at Winchendon, Worcester county, Massachusetts. He later secured employment in Keene, New Hampshire, in a sash-and-door factory, where he remained about four years, at the end of which time he went to Dover, Maine, where he learned the trade of bricklayer. In 1878 he came to Minnesota, locating at Hawley, and proved up on a homestead in section 28, Keene township; living there about ten years, working at the mason's trade at intervals the meanwhile. In 1895 he moved to Hawley, where he has since resided and followed a contracting and building business ever since. He has worked on every brick building in Hawley, with but one exception. He helped build the first brick roundhouse for the Northern Pacific railroad at Fargo, North Dakota, in 1879. He also helped build the second brick dwelling house in Moorhead.

On March 19, 1884, Herbert F. Burrill was married to Jean McDonald, a daughter of John McDonald and wife. Her death occurred on September 22, 1915. She was the mother of five children, namely: Addie, born on January 15, 1885, who married Ray Williams, February 14, 1912, and lives in Alberta, Canada; John, July 4, 1887, who is a bricklayer by trade; Herbert Grover, June 15, 1892, who is in the newspaper business; Mary Augusta, October 13, 1895, and Wallace Douglas, March 10, 1903.

Politically, Mr. Burrill is a Democrat. He was chairman of the first board of supervisors of Keene township, and later was chairman of the

board of supervisors of Hawley township. He also served two terms as justice of the peace at Hawley, and was special census agent for the United States in 1915, covering ten counties. As a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner.

BERNHART ASCHBACH.

Bernhart Aschbach, one of Norman county's best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers, now living retired at Ada, secretary and treasurer of the Ada Creamery Association and secretary of the Norman County Fair Association and for years actively identified with the development of those useful enterprises, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Norman county since the days of his young manhood, having come out to this part of Minnesota early in the days of the settlement of this section.

Born on May 13, 1858, Bernhart Aschbach was reared in his native Germany and there received his schooling and learned the trade of shoemaker. When twenty-one years of age he married and two years later, in 1881, he and his wife came to this country and proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, which has been their home ever since. That was the year in which Norman county was organized as a civic unit and the country hereabout was very sparsely settled. Not long after his arrival in Ada Mr. Aschbach bought a tract of eighty acres in McDonaldsville township and there established his home, improving and developing the place and remaining there for eight years, at the end of which time he bought a half section of unimproved land in Winchester township. On this latter place Mr. Aschbach made his home from 1889 to 1913, in which latter year he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Ada, where he and his wife are now living and where they are very comfortably situated. Mr. Aschbach improved his farm of three hundred and twenty acres in excellent shape, putting up fine buildings, and has there one of the best farm plants in the county. In addition to his general farming Mr. Aschbach gave much attention to dairying and when the Ada Creamery Association was organized in 1903 was made secretary and treasurer of the same and has ever since occupied those positions, doing much to help promote the dairy interests of this section of the state. He also for years has given his earnest attention to the affairs of the Norman County Fair Association and is now the secretary of that

useful and influential organization. During his long residence in Winchester township Mr. Aschbach gave proper attention to the civic affairs of that township and served for some time as township assessor. He also was clerk of his local school district and did much to advance the work of the school, while in other ways he also did what he could to advance the common welfare.

It was in 1879, two years before he came to America, that Bernhart Aschbach was united in marriage to Matilda Glaesner, who also was born in Germany, and to that union eight children have been born, Olga, Oscar, William, Otto, Clara, George, Hilda and Elma, all of whom are living. The Aschbachs are members of the Lutheran church and have ever given their earnest attention to church work.

JULIUS BAKER ASKE.

One of the large landowners of Clay county is Julius Baker Aske, who resides in Moorhead. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, December 13, 1878, a son of Lars and Martha (Bersagel) Aske. The mother also was a native of that county, but the father was born in Norway, from which country he came to America when a young man, locating in Fillmore county, this state, where he married. About 1882 he moved to Norman county, bringing his family and household effects overland by ox-team and wagon. He located on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, four miles northwest of Ada, later selling out and buying another farm in the same vicinity and there he remained a number of years. He worked hard developing the raw land and by perseverance became very comfortably established, continuing farming during his active life. His wife died on the farm in Norman county, but he died in California. Their family consisted of five children, Lewis, Louise, Julius, Anna and Ella.

Julius B. Aske attended the early-day schools in Norman county, being four years old when his parents located there. He assisted his father with the work of improving and cultivating the homestead. As a young man he engaged in the ice and drayage business at Ada, then followed the saloon business two years, after which he spent one year in Twin Valley, in the same business; then came to Moorhead and continued in that line until 1906, since which year he has been interested in a saloon in Minneapolis. In 1916 he started a pool hall and soft-drink business at his

old stand next to the north bridge in Moorhead. He owns six hundred acres of valuable land in Clay county, and four hundred and twenty acres in Cass county, over the river in North Dakota. Most of Mr. Aske's time during the crop seasons is taken up with the management of his land. He carries on general farming on a large scale.

Mr. Aske was married in 1903 to Rosella Schill, a native of Marion township, Norman county, and a daughter of Lambert Schill and wife. To this union three children have been born, Jerome, Egienia and Wendal. Politically, Mr. Aske is a Republican. Fraternally, he belongs to the Improved Order of Red Men and to the Fraternal Order of Eagles.

OLE MARTINSON.

Ole Martinson was born in Norway, January 19, 1847, a son of Martin Anderson and Olava Jerswald, both natives of Norway, where they lived their entire life, the father being a farmer. Their children were: Erick, Bergette, Anna, Nickolena, Karlen Marie, Ole and Olena.

Ole Martinson was educated in the schools of Norway. He worked on his father's farm during the summer season, and in the winter engaged in the business of cod fishing which was a common and remunerative vocation of the people in that community. With a view of seeking a larger opportunity for a livelihood, he followed the footsteps of many others of his neighborhood and nationality and came to America in 1872. He landed in New York, May 23, of that year, and came directly to Minnesota, locating first in St. Peter, Nicollet county, where he remained for three years. He then went to Minneapolis, where he found employment for about seven years in a planing mill. In 1882 he came to Moorhead, Minnesota, where he has made his home since that time. For more than twenty years Mr. Martinson was engaged in the mercantile business here, conducting a grocery and crockery store, but in 1904 he sold this store and retired from business.

Mr. Martinson was one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Moorhead, and served as vice-president of this institution for several years. He finally sold his interest in the bank and retired from official connection with this institution. For about sixteen years he has been a stockholder in the Moorhead National Bank and is at present one of the directors of this bank. Mr. Martinson is also interested in farming. He is the owner of a half section of land in Kurtz township, Clay county, Minnesota, a

tract of land well-adapted for general farming and stock raising, in which Mr. Martinson is largely engaged.

The maiden name of Mr. Martinson's wife is Christine Otto. Three children have been born to them: Mollie, who is at the head of the piano department in Concordia College; Eric and Oscar. Mr. Martinson and family are members of Trinity church, Moorhead, Mr. Martinson being one of the organizers and charter members of this church, of which he was the first church treasurer. He has served several terms as school director in Moorhead.

Eric Martinson, son of O. Martinson, was born in Moorhead, Minnesota, October 11, 1888, and was educated in the public schools of that city. He afterward attended the North Dakota Agricultural College, from which he graduated as a civil engineer in 1912. For the first three years after graduating he was employed in engineering work in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1915 he returned to Moorhead and was appointed district engineer of Clay county, which position he holds at present. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and a member of the Commercial Club of Moorhead.

CLARENCE I. EVENSON.

Clarence I. Evenson was born in Moorhead, January 17, 1890, a son of Even and Olena (Anderson) Evenson, both natives of Norway. The father came to America in the spring of 1882 and located first in Decorah, Iowa, where he remained for four years, at the end of which period he came to Moorhead, Minnesota, and has since made this his home. He is the father of three children: Alvina E., Clarence I., subject of this sketch, and Ethel. His church relationship is with the Norwegian Lutheran church, at Moorhead.

C. I. Evenson was educated in the public schools of Moorhead, and found employment, as a boy, in working for a grocery firm in Moorhead, delivering groceries. Later he held the position of a clerk in the same store and was thus employed for eight years. On November 9, 1912, he started in the grocery business for himself and has continued in this enterprise since. He handles an extensive general grocery line and has established a good trade in the town and surrounding country.

Mr. Evenson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the affairs of which he takes a deep and consistent interest. He is fraternally

affiliated with the local lodges of the Modern Woodmen of America, Improved Order of Red Men, Degree of Honor, the Royal League and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is president of the Moorhead Retail Merchants Association and is a member of the board of directors of the State Retail Merchants Association. Mr. Evenson is also keenly alive to the civic progress of his community and was elected a member of the city council in January of 1917.

CHARLES LAMB, SR.

Charles Lamb, Sr., the first permanent settler in Elkton township, Clay county, one of the organizers of that township and for twenty-four years a member of the board of supervisors of the same and for ten years township clerk, a substantial landowner and retired farmer, who is now varying his residence between his fine farm home in Elkton township and his town house in Baker, is a native of Scotland, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1872, one of the early residents of the Red River country and one of the most influential pioneers of the section in which he settled back in the days of the beginning of the development of this region. He was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, April 30, 1844, son of John and Elizabeth Lamb, also natives of Scotland, the former of whom died there many years ago and the latter of whom came to this country with her younger son, the late John Lamb, a memorial sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume, in 1873, and lived in Becker county, this state, until about 1878, when she homesteaded a quarter section in Elkton township, Clay county, where she spent the remainder of her life, making her home with her son William and family. That quarter section is now owned by her grandson, Charles Lamb, son of the subject of this sketch, whom she reared and who is now making his home there. Of the children born to the senior John Lamb and his wife, the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being David, Ann, Magdaline, Charles, James, John, Alexander, Mary, Jane and William.

Reared on the home farm in his native Forfarshire, Charles Lamb there grew to manhood and was married. In 1872 he came to the United States with his family and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Becker county, which not long before had been opened for settlement, and there made his home for five years, or until 1877, when he moved over into Clay county



CHARLES LAMB, SR.

and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in what later came to be organized as Elkton township, the first permanent settler in that township. At the same time he bought the tree-claim right to an adjoining quarter section, the original claimant having become discouraged and willing to dispose of his claim, and later bought an adjoining tract of one hundred acres of railroad land, thus making him a place of four hundred and twenty acres, which he gradually improved and which he still owns, now one of the most valuable farms in the township. As the premier pioneer of that section of the county, Mr. Lamb took an active part in the organization of the township when increasing settlement presently necessitated the organization of the community for civil purposes, and was elected a member of the first board of township supervisors, a position he occupied for twenty-four years and in the performance of the duties of which he did much for the development of the substantial interests of Elkton township and of the community in general. For ten years he also served as clerk of the township and likewise helped to organize his home school district, the first school district in the township. He also was a prominent factor in the organization of the first religious congregation in that community and was a charter member of the Presbyterian church, which at first conducted services in the school building, but later erected a house of worship at Baker, of which congregation Mr. Lamb is still an active member. During the days of the Good Templar crusade in this country Mr. Lamb helped organize a branch of the Good Templars in his community and was active in the work of the same, the meetings being held in the school house, which was the general social center of the community in those days. Mr. Lamb improved and developed his land in fine shape and in due time had an excellent farm plant there, continuing actively engaged in farming and stock raising until his retirement, since which time he has divided his time between his town house in Baker and the farm. In addition to his extensive farming interests, Mr. Lamb is the owner of a tidy bit of real estate in Baker and is quite well circumstanced.

Mr. Lamb has been twice married. In Scotland he married Jessie Taylor, who also was born in Forfarshire and who died some years after the family settled in Clay county. To that union were born seven children, Mary, David A., John, Jennie, Charles, James (deceased), and Jessie (deceased). Some time after the death of the mother of these children, Mr. Lamb married, in Clay county, Elizabeth Stewart, also now deceased, who was born in Scotland and who came to Minnesota with her parents, Charles and Elizabeth Stewart, natives of Scotland, in 1877, the family

settling on a homestead farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 8 of Elkton township, Clay county. To this second union seven children were born, Elizabeth, Fred, Mabel, Ronald and three who died young. As one of the pioneers of Clay county Mr. Lamb has a remarkable fund of reminiscences relating to the early days of the settlement of this region and his stories of pioneer days are interesting and informative. He has been a witness to and a participant in the development of Elkton township and of the Baker neighborhood since the days of the very beginning of a social order thereabout and has done well his part in that development.

O. N. IVERSON.

O. N. Iverson, the present postmaster at Baker, where he is an enterprising merchant, is well known in the southern part of Clay county, although he is but a young man. He was born in Tansem township, this county, January 9, 1887, a son of S. O. and Anna (Herbranson) Iverson, the father a native of Dakota county, Minnesota, and the mother, of Wisconsin. About 1880, the father came to Clay county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Tansem township. He developed the raw land into a good farm and there he has since resided. He put all the buildings and improvements on the place, and, prospering through hard work and good management, has added to his original holdings until he now owns three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, and is one of the leading general farmers and stock raisers of his township. To S. O. Iverson and wife eight children have been born, as follow: O. N., of this sketch; Theodore, Emma, Cora, George, Nettie, Melvin and Alexander. S. O. Iverson and wife belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has been active in local public affairs for many years, serving on the board for Tansem township for about fifteen years, and as a member of the school board ten or twelve years.

O. N. Iverson grew to manhood on the home farm, and he received his education in the rural schools of Tansem township. When seventeen years old, he began clerking for Thompson Fehle & Company of Barnesville, this county, remaining in that capacity about four years, giving satisfaction in every respect, for he was alert, courteous and faithful. He then spent two years in Adams county, North Dakota, on a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He left there in the spring of 1910 and came

to Baker, Clay county, Minnesota, where he worked for Possehl Brothers in their store for two years, giving them excellent service, for he had formerly mastered the various phases of the mercantile business. In 1912, he launched out in business for himself, starting a general grocery store at Baker, where he has built up a large trade and carries an extensive stock of staple and fancy groceries. In 1917 he and his brother, Theodore, who is unmarried, bought the implement business of H. C. Possehl and N. C. Noice and this they are operating with gratifying results, their trade with the surrounding country for many miles being on the upward trend.

On December 8, 1914, O. N. Iverson was appointed postmaster at Baker and has since been discharging his duties in a manner acceptable to the people of this vicinity and to the postoffice department.

Mr. Iverson was married in 1912 to Clara Butenhoff, a daughter of August Butenhoff and wife. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Iverson, namely: Francelia and Edward. Mr. and Mrs. Iverson belong to the English Lutheran church at Barnesville, in the affairs of which they have a devout and conscientious interest.

CHARLES E. COLBY.

Charles E. Colby, editor and publisher of the *Barnesville Headlight* at Barnesville, and former president of the Clay County Editorial Association, is a native son of Minnesota and has spent all his life in this state, with the exception of four years spent in the postoffice service in South Dakota back in the eighties. He was born on a pioneer farm in Plainview township, in Wabasha county, but was reared and educated at Glencoe, where he finished the high school course; later becoming a student in the Archibald Business College at Minneapolis. His father, George H. Colby, a native of New York state and a veteran of the Civil War, lived on his farm in McLeod county until his retirement and removal to Hector, where his last days were spent.

At the age of thirteen years, Charles E. Colby began his apprenticeship in "the art preservative of all arts," and before he entered the business college had become a proficient printer, thoroughly familiar with the details of that important trade, and was engaged working at that trade until 1884, when he went to Groton, South Dakota, where he spent the ensuing four years as a clerk in the postoffice and as mailing clerk in the railway post-

office at that place. In 1888 Mr. Colby returned to Glencoe and there bought the plant of the *Enterprise* and was editor and manager of that paper for two years, at the end of which time he sold the *Enterprise* and moved to Duluth, where he established a job printing plant and was there engaged in the job-printing business until 1893. In the meantime Mr. Colby had married at Duluth and in 1893 he moved with his family to Grand Rapids, this state, where he entered upon the position of foreman of the plant of the *Maquet* and where he remained until his removal to Barnesville, which has ever since been his place of residence. It was in January, 1897, that Mr. Colby established the *Barnesville Record*, the first number of which was dated January 28. Mr. Colby started the *Record* as a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican party and continued to publish the same until he sold the paper to the Barnesville Record-Review Company in 1903, after which, for two years, he acted as local agent for the Money-Weight Scale Company, of Toronto. Mr. Colby then returned to the print shop and took up the duties of foreman of the plant of the *Barnesville Record-Review*. Two years later he was made manager of the *Record-Review* and continued in that position until 1913, in which year he established his present newspaper, the *Barnesville Headlight*. At the same time he bought the plant of the *Moorhead Independent* and on July 18, 1913, merged that paper with the *Headlight*, which has ever since been published under that name, the publishing firm being Colby Brothers. The *Barnesville Headlight* is well equipped mechanically, not only for newspaper work but for general job printing, the equipment including a linotype machine and all the up-to-date appliances for the successful operation of a modern printing plant. Mr. Colby is widely known in newspaper circles throughout this part of the state and for three years or more served as president of the Clay County Editorial Association, in the affairs of which he takes a warm interest.

It was while living at Duluth that Charles E. Colby was united in marriage to Anna Termath, also natives of Minnesota, born in the village of LeSueur, in LeSueur county, of German descent, though her parents both were of American birth. Mr. and Mrs. Colby have two sons, Dana T. and Everett C., the latter of whom is associated with his father in the publication of the *Barnesville Headlight*—an energetic and progressive young newspaper man. Dana T. Colby also is engaged in newspaper work, which has been his life-long vocation, and is now connected with the Fargo (North Dakota) *Daily Forum*. He received his early training in newspaper work under the able direction of his father and then for some time was employed on the force of the *Courier-News* at Fargo, later going to the *Fargo Forum*

and thence to the *Capital* at Jamestown, North Dakota, later to the *Bismark Tribune* and then returning to the *Forum*, where he holds an editorial chair.

OLE E. REIRSGORD.

Ole E. Reirsgord was born, July 23, 1875, in Norway, a son of Evan Gury (Ellingson) Reirsgord, both natives of Norway, the former being born, September 4, 1851, and the latter, January 1, 1852. The father came to America in 1875 and located in Houston county, Minnesota, his wife and child coming the following year. In 1877, Evan Reirsgord came to Clay county and located a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Ulen township, section 10, where he lived two years and then sold the improvements to Robert Syverson. He then removed to another location in Hagen township, six miles west, taking a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He lived on this for about sixteen years and then sold out and removed to Thief River Falls, Minnesota, where he lived for four years. Disposing of this place, he removed to Canada, where he still lives. His first wife died in 1888, and four years later he married Julia Halvorson, who died in 1898. He was the father of six children by his first wife: Ole E., the subject of this review; Annie, Ella, Julius, Olof and Carrie; and of four children by his second wife: Edward, Gilbert, Bert, and Hilman. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

O. E. Reirsgord was educated in the public schools of Hagen township, and in the city schools of Moorhead which he attended about three winters. In the spring of 1893, he began teaching school in Clay county, continuing in this profession every spring and fall until the spring of 1898. In the winter and spring of 1894, he attended Concordia College at Moorhead, where he completed a business course, graduating from that institution. In the spring of 1898, he bought the plant of the *Ulen Union*, took possession as sole proprietor, May 17, of that year, and has been editor and publisher of the same since that date.

Mr. Reirsgord was postmaster of Ulen from June, 1909, to June, 1913. He is the present chairman of the Republican central committee of Clay county, and president of the public school board. He has served as president of the village council, village recorder and justice of the peace. He held all these official positions before he became postmaster.

On June 3, 1897, O. E. Reirsgord and Clara Bjerke, a daughter of

Nels and Catherine Bjerke, were united in marriage. They have seven children: Alice, Erwin, Cora, Lila, Reuben, Milton and May. They are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Reirsgord is at present superintendent of the Sunday school and takes a prominent part in all church activities. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

OLE O. EGGE.

Ole O. Egge, a well-to-do and prominent farmer and owner of a several tracts of land in Humboldt township, Clay county, director on the township school board and on the township board and otherwise active in public affairs, was born in the kingdom of Norway, March 1, 1861, but has been living in this country since 1884, having settled in Clay county in April of that year. He is the son of Ole Hanson and Carrie (Dahlen) Egge, also born in Norway and who lived and died in that country.

Ole Hanson Egge was educated in the schools of Norway where he was a farmer by occupation and continued thus engaged for the remainder of his active life, his death occurring in his native land in 1878. Ole H. Egge was twice married, his first wife being Goro Dahlen, to whom he was married about 1828, and to that union the following children were born: Hans, who was born in 1830 and died in Norway at the age of eighty-seven years; Paul; Anders and Anna. By his second marriage, in 1846, to Carrie Dahlen he was the father of four children, namely: Ole O., the subject of this sketch; Goro, Bertha Marie and Carrie. Mrs. Carrie (Dahlen) Egge died in Norway in 1890. Ole H. Egge was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole O. Egge was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the labors of the same. His father died when he was seventeen years old, and for six years thereafter, or until 1884 when he immigrated to this country, he continued to remain on the old home farm and help the other members of the family. Upon his arrival in Clay county, Mr. Egge purchased eighty acres of land, part of his present farm, and, as he prospered in his farming operations, he made further purchases and now has a tract of five hundred and eighty acres of choice land in section 12, Humboldt township, and has additional land in sections 1 and 11, in the same township. He carries on general farming according to

modern methods of agriculture and is very successful. His place is well improved with new buildings and dwelling house, and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive farmers of this section of the county.

On November 7, 1894, at Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, Ole O. Egge was united in marriage to Anna Egge, who was born in Norway in 1861 and came to America in 1884, ten years before the date of her marriage. To this union the following children have been born: Clara, Oscar, Olga (deceased), Gena and Henry. The Egge family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works, and to the congregation of the church Mr. Egge has been secretary for the past twenty-three years. He takes a good citizen's interest in the civic and general affairs of the township and has served as a member of district school board No. 45 for upwards of twenty-four years. He has rendered further public service through his connection with the township board, at the deliberations of which he has been a constant attendant for the long period of eighteen years. In many other directions he has given evidence of a warm interest in all matters tending toward the common good of the community.

PETER B. MOORE.

Peter B. Moore was born in Becker county, Minnesota, November 10, 1878, a son of Peter and Kari (Oppen) Moore, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1872 and located in Becker county, Minnesota, where they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Cuba township, of that county. Here they built a home, improved the land, and continued to live until Peter Moore's death in 1881. His wife is still living. There were seven children in this family: Christina, Bertha, Andrew, Atlanta, who was born on the Atlantic ocean on their way to this country; Ellick, Hans and Peter B. The father was an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Peter B. Moore was educated in the public schools of Cuba township, Baker county, and worked on the farm in his early years. In the spring of 1897, he came to Ulen, Clay county, and was employed as a clerk in the store of Robert Hanson for two years. He was afterward employed for three years as a clerk for L. P. Herreid, and then with the Ulen Mercantile Company until 1910, in which year, Mr. Moore, in partnership with Gill Fevig, bought out this company and assumed full control of the business

and have continued thus ever since. They are general merchandise dealers and have also a potato warehouse business in connection with their store.

In 1902, Peter B. Moore and Helma Fevig were united in marriage, and three children have been born to this union: Ruby, Fern and Ray. Mr. Moore is a member of the United Lutheran church, and also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

SMITH WESLEY McEVERS.

Smith Wesley McEvers, former member of the board of supervisors of Elmwood township, Clay county, former assessor of that township and the proprietor of a fine farm of six hundred and thirty-seven acres in the vicinity of Baker, where he has made his home since his marriage in 1883, is a native of the Dominion of Canada, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-five years of age. He was born on a farm in the province of Ontario in 1855, son of Hiram and Elizabeth (Grieves) McEvers, the former of whom also was born in Ontario and the latter in Scotland, whose last days were spent on their well-kept farm in Ontario. Hiram McEvers and wife were the parents of eleven children, Jane, John, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Hiram, William, Stephen, Benjamin, Emily, James and Smith Wesley, all of whom are now deceased save the three last named.

Reared on the home farm in Ontario, Smith W. McEvers received his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood and remained there until he was twenty-five years of age, when, in 1880, he came down into the States and located at St. Paul, where for three years he was employed in the establishment of E. B. Stickney & Company. In 1883 he married and, seeking a place to establish a permanent home, came up into the Red River country and bought the farm on which he is now living, in Elmwood township, Clay county, and has ever since made his home there, having created there one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. Mr. McEvers has a well-improved place of six hundred and thirty-seven acres, on which he is engaged in general farming, potato raising and stock raising, making a specialty of his fine Percheron horses, and has done well in his operations. From the time of the beginning of his residence there, Mr. McEvers has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and has served his township as a member of the board of supervisors and as assessor.

In 1883, the year in which he settled in Clay county, Smith W. McEvers



SMITH W. McEVEYS AND FAMILY.

was united in marriage to Bessie Larson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway and who had come to the United States in 1866, when but a small child, with her parents, Andrew and Marian Dorothy (Halverson) Larson, the family settling in Wisconsin, where Andrew Larson and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of five children, those besides Mrs. McEvers being Mary, Lars, Hans and Josephine. Of these children but two are now living, Mrs. McEvers and her brother Lars. Mr. and Mrs. McEvers have five children, Charles A., George W., Joseph S., Stephen and Daniel L., all of whom are living. The family are members of the Presbyterian church and take an interested part in church work and in the general good works and social activities of the neighborhood, helpful in many ways in promoting movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

O. C. MARTINSON.

O. C. Martinson was born in Moorhead, Minnesota, December 27, 1890, a son of O. Martinson, who was a native of Norway, born on January 19, 1847.

O. C. Martinson was educated in the public schools of Moorhead, and after the completion of his elementary studies, he attended Concordia college, at Moorhead, and graduated from that institution in 1909. Later he engaged in business, and with a view of fitting himself for the profession of optometrist, he attended an optical school, at Minneapolis, where he took a full course of instruction, passed the required examination and received a certificate as a registered optometrist in the state of Minnesota.

In 1911 O. C. Martinson, associated with J. Quale, purchased the jewelry store of Sweningsen & Company, in Moorhead, and engaged in that business under the firm name of Quale & Martinson. In March, 1916, Mr. Martinson purchased his partner's interest and has since conducted the business alone. He carries a full line of jewelry and optical goods and has a good trade among the substantial people of the town and county.

Mr. Martinson is a member of the Trinity church of Moorhead, and a member of the church quartette. He is a baritone singer and is prominent in musical circles. Mr. Martinson is not married and makes his home with his parents.

JOHN LUTHI.

John Luthi, a well known and substantial farmer, living in Hawley township, the owner of a quarter section of prime land and actively engaged in farming operations, is a native of the republic of Switzerland, but has been living in this country since he was seventeen years old, having immigrated from his native land in 1886. He was born in June, 1869, a son of Christ L. and Anna Barbara (Eiman) Luthi, who came to the United States in 1891.

Christ L. Luthi was born in Switzerland in 1830, and in that country he was educated and brought up to the life of a farmer. He was married in his native land and immigrated to America in 1891, his son, John, the subject of this sketch having preceded him some five years before. He continued to follow farming after coming here, and is now living practically retired in the state of Iowa. His wife, Anna Barbara Eiman, was born in 1838, also a native of Switzerland, and came with her husband to this country in 1891 and is now living in Iowa. Christ Luthi and wife are the parents of the following children: Charlie, Fred, Albert, Anna, Louisa, Lena and John. During their active lifetime the parents were influential residents of the district in which they lived and were helpful in promoting all good causes for the benefit of the community.

John Luthi was educated under the excellent school system that prevails in Switzerland, and, on coming to this country in 1886, he commenced to work on farms and came to Clay county in 1898, after his marriage in the previous year. He entered into occupation of his present farm in 1903 and now is the owner of a quarter section of choice land in section 9, Hawley township. Here he is engaged in general farming and since the commencement of his agricultural operations he has been most successful, his place being well improved and his farming methods being modern in all particulars. He sets out a portion of his holding, exclusively, to the cultivation of potatoes.

In 1897, John Luthi was united in marriage to Hermina Sinkler, a native of Germany, who was born in that country in April, 1877, and who has been living in this country since she was six years old. Mr. and Mrs. Luthi are the parents of eleven children, as follow: Rosie, who is married; Minnie, Louisa, Lena, Elau, John, Freda, George, Clara, Margaret and Mabel. Mr. Luthi takes a good citizen's interest in all community affairs, and for years has been giving attention to the cause of education, serving

as treasurer of the township school board. His efforts are not confined to that form of public usefulness, and in many other ways he has given of his time and energy to further the welfare of the community.

FRANK V. SVENSON.

Frank V. Svenson, son of Sven Anderson and Elna (Nelson) Svenson, and a native of Sweden, as were his father and mother, was born, April 5, 1882. His father still lives in Sweden and follows the occupation of a farmer, the subject of this sketch being the only child in this family.

Frank V. Svenson was educated in the public schools of Sweden and spent his early manhood in working with his father on the farm. In 1904 he came to America and located at Hitterdal, Clay county, Minnesota. He found employment in carpenter work and followed that trade until 1912. He then became manager of the Wilcox Lumber Company at Hitterdal, and has been thus engaged since that time. He is not married.

C. J. ECKMANN.

C. J. Eckmann, head of the C. J. Eckmann Lumber Company at Hendrum, present treasurer of the village of Hendrum and one of the best-known and most wideawake business men in Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota for more than a quarter of a century, having lived at Hendrum ever since he was twenty-five years of age. He was born in the city of Stavanger, on the southwest coast of Norway, October 14, 1866, son of Capt. Carsten and Malena (Johnson) Eckmann, both of whom were born in that same city, the former of whom is now living in the village of Hendrum and the latter of whom spent her last days there.

Capt. Carsten Eckmann grew up to the life of the sea and became the captain of a merchant vessel, which he sailed for years, or until he tired of the sea and, in 1891, came to the United States with his family, proceeding on out to Minnesota and coming on up here into the Red River valley and locating in Norman county. He bought a farm of four hundred acres one-half mile east of the village of Hendrum and there made his

home for ten years, or until 1901, when he sold his farm and retired, moving to the village of Hendrum, where he still lives, one of the substantial citizens of that village. His wife died there on January 10, 1915. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being Hans, who lives in England; Caia, who lives at Halstad, and Albert M., of Hendrum.

C. J. Eckmann grew up among seafaring folk in his native Stavanger and upon completing his schooling took to the sea, remaining on his father's vessel until he became a thoroughly qualified navigator and at the age of twenty passed the official examination and was commissioned a ship's officer. He continued a seafaring life until 1891, when he came to this country with his parents and located in Norman county, shortly afterward being employed by the Imperial Elevator Company as that company's local grain buyer at Hendrum. In 1904 he was transferred by that company from the elevator to the lumber yard it also controlled at Hendrum and was thus engaged as manager of the lumber yard when, in 1907, the same was sold to the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company. Mr. Eckmann remained in the employ of the latter company until February, 1915, when he bought the lumber yard from Stenerson Brothers and has since conducted the lumber business, under the firm style of the C. J. Eckmann Lumber Company. Mr. Eckmann has long been regarded as one of the leading lumber men of this part of the state and is doing very well in his operations. He gives close attention to the general business affairs of the village and is now the treasurer of the local Commercial Club. Ever since locating at Hendrum he has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, has served as recorder of the village and is now treasurer of the village, secretary and treasurer of the Hendrum fire department and director of school district No. 1, giving to his various public duties his most intelligent attention.

On October 10, 1894, C. J. Eckmann was united in marriage to Julia C. Selnes and to this union seven children have been born, Chester, Carsten, Lillie, Millard, Vivian, one who died in infancy, and Lillie, who died at the age of two years and nine months. Mr. and Mrs. Eckmann are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper part in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful in promoting all worthy causes thereabout. Mr. Eckmann is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Foresters and is financial secretary of the same.

OLE O. ERICKSON.

One of the best known and most successful farmers and stockmen of the northeastern part of Clay county is Ole O. Erickson, of Ulen township. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 24, 1864, a son of Ole and Christie (Christophersdatter) Erickson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came directly to Wisconsin about 1850. After remaining there about two years, they came on to Fillmore county, Minnesota, driving an ox-team to a covered wagon, the trip requiring nearly a month. The father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Fillmore county, six miles west of Rushford, which land he improved into a good farm, erected such outbuildings as his needs required and a comfortable residence. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, the mother reaching an advanced age, dying in January, 1917. They were among the earliest pioneers of that county, there being only five other families in that part of the county when they went there. Eight children were born to Ole and Christie Erickson, namely: Christopher and Erick, both deceased; Turena, Ole O., of this sketch; Helge, Mary, Bengt and Helen.

Ole O. Erickson, of this review, grew to manhood on the home farm in Fillmore county, where he received a limited education in the early-day schools. He remained in his native community until 1890, when he came to Clay county and worked in the vicinity of Ulen two years. He then married and began farming for himself, buying forty acres in section 27, Ulen township, which was all in timber and without buildings. The part of his land which he cleared he put under cultivation. He also erected suitable buildings and continued to reside there until March, 1911, when he moved to the farm he now occupies, just across the road from his original forty, which contains one hundred and sixty acres. He added an eighty-acre tract to his original forty many years ago, and all this he sold upon moving to his present farm. He has a well-improved and productive place, the improvements having been made by Helge Klemmetson, his brother-in-law, of whom he bought the farm. Mr. Klemmetson took the land up as a homestead in 1879. Mr. Erickson has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, breeds full-blooded Holstein cattle and is a dealer in all kinds of live stock, of which he is an excellent judge.

Mr. Erickson was married on May 28, 1892, to Karen Klemmetson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Klemmet and Christie (Halvorsdatter).

ter) Lia, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and there the father died a few months before his daughter Karen was born. The widow subsequently brought five children to America, three weeks after her daughter's birth, coming directly to Houston county, Minnesota, and locating in Spring Grove township, where her son Helge had preceded her by one year. About 1879, Helge Klemmetson came to Clay county and a year later his mother joined him here, bringing the rest of her children. She homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of prairie land in section 14, Ulen township, and on this she erected buildings and resided for seven years. At the end of this time she sold out and built a small house on the farm of her son, Helge, and there lived for some time, but her death occurred in the home where the subject of this sketch now resides. Her death occurred in 1915 at the unusual age of eighty-nine years. She was the mother of the following children: Helge, Ingeborg, Bertha, deceased; Andrie, Elling, Andrew and Karen. The Klemmetson family helped organize the first church at Ulen.

To Mr. and Mrs. Erickson four children, all living at this time, were born, namely: Clara Olena, Edva Castelia, Clifford Oliver, and Alice Helvena. Mr. Erickson is a member of the Lutheran church. Politically, he is an independent.

JOHN MCGOUGH

The late John McGough, first postmaster of the village of Downer, a pioneer homesteader of that neighborhood, formerly chairman of the board of supervisors of Elkton township, for years a representative of the railroad company's interests at Downer and a substantial landowner in the vicinity of that village and one of the best-known men in Clay county, was a native of the Dominion of Canada, but had been a resident of Clay county since about the year 1880, and had therefore been a witness to and a participant in the development of that region since the days of the pioneers. He was born on June 11, 1840, and was reared and educated in his native Canada, where he became a teaming contractor and where he married.

Not long after his marriage John McGough came to the States and became engaged in railroad work, being thus employed at various places until about 1880, when he became engaged on the construction work of the railroad at Downer, where he ever afterward made his home, spending the rest of his life there, his death occurring on May 30, 1917. Though actively

engaged in the work of the railroad after his arrival at Downer, serving the company variously as foreman of the section, superintendent of the gravel pit and foreman of the extra gang. Mr. McGough found opportunity meanwhile to develop an excellent piece of farming property adjoining the village, he having homesteaded the northwest quarter of section 22, Elkton township, shortly after entering upon his duties at the railroad station, establishing his home there. When the postoffice was established at Downer Mr. McGough was appointed postmaster and for several years occupied that position, being succeeded by his daughter, Miss Alice McGough, who made her home with him and who held the office until the postoffice finally was located in the store building at Downer, the office previously having been located in the McGough residence. The McGoughs are Catholics and John McGough helped to organize the Catholic parish at Barnesville, his family still being attached to that parish. He took an active part in the various civic affairs of the community in pioneer days and at one time and another held about all the township offices, including that of chairman of the board of supervisors. After he became pretty well established at Downer, Mr. McGough gave up his railroad work there and thereafter devoted himself to the development and improvement of his homestead farm, adding to the same until he became the owner of a fine place of two hundred and eighty acres. His wife died on February 23, 1889, and he survived her eighteen years, his death occurring, as noted above, on May 30, 1917. She was born, Bridget Mahoney, in Ireland, but was reared in Canada, having been but a child when she crossed the water with her widowed mother. Mr. and Mrs. McGough had five children: Thomas, who is living at Downer; Anna, deceased, who was the wife of William Hogan; Alice, who is still on the old home farm; James, deceased, and Edward J.

Edward J. McGough was born on September 17, 1874, and was about six years of age when his parents settled at Downer. He received his schooling in the local schools and from the days of his boyhood was a valued assistant in the labors of improving and developing the home place, he and his father working together to that end. About fifteen years ago Edward J. McGough established his home on his present fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the Downer neighborhood and has since lived there, developing that place from the raw prairie. He has excellent buildings on his place and has a well-ordered farm plant.

On August 5, 1894, Edward J. McGough was united in marriage to Dela Burley, who was born near Tama, Iowa, but who was reared in Elkton

township, daughter of Frank and Matilda (Croskey) Burley, and to this union seven children have been born: Mary, Agnes, Emma (deceased), James, Edward, Etta, Effie and Thomas.

GUSTAV A. ERSTAD.

Gustav A. Erstad, proprietor of "Elmwood Farm," a fine place of four hundred and eighty acres lying on the line between Elmwood and Glyndon townships in Clay county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Mineola township, Goodhue county, July 3, 1869, son of Andrew and Olene (Lebeck) Erstad, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, who were married in Goodhue county, this state, and there spent their last days, honored pioneers of that community.

Andrew Erstad came to the United States in 1853 and about two years later, in June, 1855, pre-empted a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Mineola township, in Goodhue county, this state, the second settler in that township: Christian Peterson, the first entrant there, having made his location in the previous month of May. Not long after filing on his claim Andrew Erstad married Olene Lebeck, who had not long before come to this country with her parents, the family settling in Goodhue county, and after his marriage established his home on his pre-emption tract and proceeded to develop and improve the same, in time coming to be one of the most substantial farmers in that community and a considerable landowner. He was one of the organizers of his home township and for some time served as a member of the board of township supervisors and also for some time was assessor of his township. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Cornelius, John, Albert, Mary, Selma (deceased), Augustus (deceased) and one other, who died in youth. Andrew Erstad and wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm in Goodhue county, Gustav A. Erstad received his schooling in the schools of that county and early became a practical farmer, remaining there until 1897, when he came up into the Red River country and located on the place where he is now living, in Elmwood township, and where he and his family are very comfortably and very pleas-

antly situated. When Mr. Erstad took possession of "Elmwood Farm" the place was but a tract of raw prairie land and he has made all the substantial improvements which make the place one of the best-appointed farm plants in that part of the county. He has three-quarters of a section there, one quarter being over the line in Glyndon township, and in addition to his general farming and potato raising has given considerable attention to the raising of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and has done well in his operations. He is a stockholder in the Glyndon Elevator Company and in other ways gives his earnest attention to the general business affairs of the community in which he lives.

In 1901, about four years after taking up his residence in Clay county, Gustav A. Erstad was united in marriage to Maggie Lamb, daughter of James Lamb and wife, pioneers of Clay county, and to this union five children have been born, Albert, Lawrence, Earl Wallace, Ede (deceased), and Pearl. Mr. and Mrs. Erstad are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other neighborhood good works.

EDWARD U. WADE.

Edward U. Wade, the present efficient and well-known police magistrate of Moorhead, was born in Albany, New York, July 3, 1867, a son of Edward Wade, who was a prominent lawyer at Albany for forty-two years. He is a descendant of an old American family, one of the oldest, in fact, the first of the name to land on the shores of the western continent coming to Massachusetts in the year 1632. James Wade, a direct ancestor of the subject of this sketch, fought in the Revolutionary War, with a Massachusetts regiment.

Edward U. Wade grew to manhood in his native city, and he received his education in the Albany Boys Academy. Later he was a student in the Albany Law School, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1888; however, he never practiced. He came West as a surveyor to Duluth, Minnesota, and after remaining there and at Superior, the adjoining city, until July 1, 1891, he came to Fargo, North Dakota, and established his home. For some time he represented a mercantile company as collector in this section of the northwest, but after the great fire at Fargo he located in Moorhead, where he engaged in the bicycle sales and repair business. About 1907, he was elected justice of the peace and has since discharged the

duties of this office in an able, faithful and eminently satisfactory manner. Since 1915 he has also been incumbent of the office of police magistrate and has looked after the affairs of both offices in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and has given satisfaction to all concerned. His decisions show not only a profound knowledge of the basic principles of jurisprudence but also an unbiased fairness in dealing with all cases, his decisions never being reversed at the hands of higher tribunals.

Mr. Wade was married on March 3, 1892, to Anna G. Borgen, of Fargo, North Dakota, a daughter of T. L. Borgen. To Mr. Wade and wife eight children have been born, as follow: Edward, who is deceased; Dudley Bradstreet, deceased; Edward, Dudley Bradstreet, Richard, Ellen Anna, Mary and Anna Borgen.

Politically, Mr. Wade is a Republican. He is a member of the state board of managers of the Sons of the American Revolution to which he belongs, and has been on the board four years. He belongs to Moorhead Lodge No. 126, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he has been secretary for ten years, and also past master. He has always taken an abiding interest in local affairs and is a public-spirited and highly esteemed resident of Clay county.

ELIAS O. ROST

It is not the weaklings that accomplish worthy ends in the face of obstacles and opposition, but those with nerve and initiative, whose motto is, "He never fails who never gives up," and with this terse aphorism ever in view, they forge ahead until they reach a definite goal in life. Elias O. Rost, a farmer of Ulen township, Clay county, is a man who has won despite adverse circumstances.

Mr. Rost was born in Norway, December 5, 1845. He is a son of Ole N. and Ann (Syverson) Rost, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and continued to reside until 1870, when they came to America to join their son Elias, who had preceded them to Osceola, Clear county, Pennsylvania. After spending a year there they all went to Lauderdale county, Tennessee, remaining there until the fall of 1871, when they went to Chicago, in which city they resided until 1879, when they came to Minnesota and located on the farm in Clay county, where the subject of this sketch now resides, in Ulen township. Ole N. Rost, the father, took up

a homestead in Hagen township, where he developed a good farm on which he spent the rest of his life, dying at an advanced age. His widow spent her last years in the village of Ulen, reaching the remarkable age of nearly ninety-nine. To these parents three children were born, namely: Nick, deceased; Elias, the subject of this sketch, and Ellen, who is the wife of Elling Wang.

Elias O. Rost grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He came to America in 1868, locating in Osceola, Pennsylvania, where he spent three years, working on a farm the first summer; then worked in the coal mines during winters, but continued working on farms in the crop seasons. He then came West with his parents, as related in the preceding paragraph, remaining with them until the fall of 1879, when he came to Clay county a little ahead of them and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Ulen township. This he developed into a good farm, putting on all improvements, including an excellent group of buildings, and here he has since resided. He worked hard and managed well and, prospering with advancing years, he added to his original place until he now owns five hundred and twenty acres, constituting one of the most desirable farms in Ulen township; and he has been very successful, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He raises large quantities of grain and prepares live stock for the markets in large numbers.

Mr. Rost was married in 1876 to Anna Thompson, who was born in Norway. She is a daughter of Halger Thompson and wife and came to America when young. To Mr. and Mrs. Rost six children have been born, namely: Olaf, Adolph (deceased), Eliza, Matilda, Emil and Albert, who grew up on the home farm and were educated in the public schools.

Mr. Rost has seen great changes "come over the face of the land" since he took up his residence in Ulen township some thirty-eight years ago, for he was an early pioneer there, the country being then but a wild, sparsely settled prairie. He has taken a good citizen's interest in this development, helped organize the school district where he lives and was the first clerk of the same. In fact, he helped organize Ulen township and was one of the first members of the board of the same and was clerk of the first board. Later he served as chairman for many years. He is well known over the northeastern part of the county and is highly respected. He is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at the village of Ulen, which church he helped organize. This was the first church in Ulen.

C. O. MADSON.

C. O. Madson, postmaster of the village of Halstad, was born on a pioneer farm about two miles northeast of that village and has lived in that neighborhood all his life, with the exception of a year spent at Warren. He was born on January 4, 1889, son of Christ and Christine (Baggerud) Madson, the former a native of the kingdom of Denmark and the latter of the kingdom of Norway, who are now living on their old home farm northeast of the village of Halstad, pioneers of Norman county.

Christ Madson was born in the town of Nystad, on the south coast of the Island of Laaland, Denmark, and from the time he was fourteen years of age until he was twenty-four he followed the sea as a sailor. About 1874 he came to the United States and located at Beloit, Wisconsin, where he found employment as a blacksmith in the Thompson plow works, and where he remained for a time, when he came over into Minnesota and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in what later came to be organized as Halstad township, Norman county, two miles northeast of the present flourishing village of Halstad, and there he still lives, one of the honored and influential pioneer citizens of Norman county. Mr. Madson has ever taken an active part in local civic affairs and served for about fourteen years as chairman of the board of supervisors of Halstad township and for four years, 1902-06, served as a member of the board of county commissioners from the second district. He and his wife are earnest members of the Lutheran church and their six sons were reared in that faith. Of these sons the subject of this sketch is the second in order of birth, the others being Martin, Charles, Mandley, Odin and Walter.

C. O. Madson was reared on the homestead farm in Halstad township and following his graduation from the high school at Halstad learned the art of photography under the direction of C. V. Olson, of Halstad. He then went to Warren, up in Marshall county, where he worked as a photographer for a year, at the end of which time, in 1909, the year of his marriage, he returned to Halstad and opened a photograph studio of his own and was thus very successfully engaged in business at that place until his appointment as postmaster of Halstad. Mr. Madson entered upon the duties of postmaster on January 1, 1915, and has since given his full attention to the affairs of that office, renting his studio.

It was on June 7, 1909, that C. O. Madson was united in marriage to Julia Nelson, daughter of T. A. Nelson and wife, and to this union

three children have been born, two daughters, Charlotte and Karren, and one son, Woodrow Jennings. Mr. and Mrs. Madson are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social activities of their home village and are helpful in promoting all good works thereabout. Mr. Madson is a member of the local lodges of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these organizations.

JOHN T. JOHNSON.

John T. Johnson, member of the board of county commissioners of Clay county and a prominent real-estate dealer at Ulen, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, March 5, 1867, a son of John Johnson, born in Norway in 1825, and Ingebor (Ellefson) Johnson, also born in Norway. The elder John Johnson came to America in the spring of 1843 and located in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he lived for several years engaged in farming. In 1856 he removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres which he improved and on which he established his home. He continued to live there, engaged in general farming, until his death, which occurred in 1905. His wife died in 1912. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. They had quite a large family consisting of twelve children: Thomas E., who died at the age of fifty-four; Martha, Elias, Robert, Inger, Elvina, John T., Isabel, Christine, Josephine, Albert, who died at the age of nine years, and Edward.

John T. Johnson received his elementary education in the public schools of Fillmore county, and in the high school at Rushford. After completion of his preparatory studies in this school he entered Augustana College, at Canton, South Dakota, and was graduated from that institution in the spring of 1888. He then came to Clay county, and for three years following was engaged in teaching at Ulen. He then spent six months attending a business college in Minneapolis, and for two years following was engaged in office work in Preston, Minnesota. In the fall of 1892 he returned to Clay county and was engaged in teaching for five years, three of which were in the village of Ulen. After he quit teaching he was engaged in the hardware business in Ulen for about three years. He then started in the real-estate business and has continued in that business since. In 1906 he was elected county commissioner of Clay county and has been elected as

his own successor on the board at every election since that year, and is now holding that position.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1890 to Tobina Thompson, daughter of Iver Thompson, of Ada, county seat of Norman county, and to this union two children have been born, Adeline and Franklin. Mr. Johnson's fraternal affiliation is with the Woodmen's lodge.

CHARLES W. BRENDEMUHL.

Few farmers in Clay county take greater pleasure in their work than Charles W. Brendemuhl, of Kragnes township. He was born at Rochester, Minnesota, in June, 1871, a son of Charles A. and Wilhelmina (Fink) Brendemuhl. The father was born in Germany, from which country he came to America with his parents when ten years old, the family locating on a farm eighteen miles from the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It was the custom of the mother to carry eggs to that city, for which she received only six cents a dozen, making the trip on foot. Later the family moved to near Rochester, Minnesota, where they lived several years. One of the sons, August T., was one of the first settlers on the present site of Moorhead. Charles A. Brendemuhl owned land where the court house now stands. He became owner of sixteen hundred and forty acres in Kragnes township, Clay county. He gave each of his sons a large farm as they attained the age of twenty-five years. The father died in the spring of 1913, at the age of seventy-nine years, on the old home place in Kragnes township, to which he removed in 1878. His wife died there in 1909 at the age of sixty-nine years. She was a native of Wisconsin. These parents were married in 1865. Eleven children were born to them, as follow: Clara, who is married and lives in California; Will, who also is married; Fred, who is married and lives in North Dakota; Charles W., the subject of this review; Albert, who died when two years old; Anna, who lives in Fergus Falls, Minnesota; August, who lives in Idaho; Henry, who has remained on the old home place; Mrs. Minnie Norby, who also lives on the homestead, and Lilly, who died at the age of thirty years.

Charles W. Brendemuhl grew up on the farm and attended the public schools. He has devoted his life successfully to general farming and stock raising, and is now the owner of a well-improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres of productive land in Kragnes township. He built a

new residence in 1899, which he remodeled in 1915, making it modern in every appointment, installing a bath, hot and cold water, sewerage system, furnace, electric lights and the like, making it one of the most comfortable homes in the county. All the outbuildings are well kept and every thing about the place denotes that a gentleman of good taste and progressive ideas is at the helm. In connection with his general farming and stock raising, Mr. Brendemuhl makes a specialty of potato growing, thirty acres being planted in tubers in 1917, and the crop for the preceding year was sold for thirty-six hundred dollars.

On October 26, 1899, Mr. Brendemuhl was married to Hulda Poehls, who was born in Iowa in 1881. To their union seven children have been born, Lena, Nellie, Lizzie, Emma, Howard, Roy and Ruth, all of whom live at home.

Politically, the subject of this sketch is independent. He served as chairman of the township board for eight years and is at present a member of the school board. He is a stockholder and director in the Farmers Elevator Company at Kragnes, also in the telephone company that operates in Oakport and Kragnes township, known as the Oak and Kragnes Telephone Company. He has been treasurer of the school board in district No. 24 during the past fifteen years, takes a general interest in local public affairs and is regarded as a good citizen in every respect.

FLAVEL A. WOODWARD.

Flavel A. Woodward, president of the Farmers State Bank, of Glyndon, Minnesota, and one of the enterprising and substantial business men of that progressive little city, is a native of Michigan, born in Barry county, on September 28, 1860, a son of Oliver Z. Woodward and wife, natives of New York state. About 1872, Oliver Z. Woodward came from Michigan to Wright county, Minnesota, but after residing there about a year he returned to Michigan, later going to Kansas, where his death occurred.

F. A. Woodward is the only child of his parents who grew to maturity. After his mother's death occurred when he was only an infant nine days old, he was given to a neighbor woman to rear, but at the age of six years, he went to live with his father. When he was twelve years old, he and his father drove overland with a horse team from Michigan to Minnesota. From that time Mr. Woodward has made his own way in the world, and

by hard work, close application and diligence, he has won a very commendable success in the business world. In 1880 he came to Glyndon, Clay county, Minnesota, and has made his home here practically ever since. When he first came to the county, he worked at various occupations, among which were farming and lumbering. He lived on a farm about a half mile north of Glyndon until 1913, in which year he went to California, but the following year he returned to Glyndon, and, in partnership with Walter Shave, engaged in the machinery business, which they are still very successfully carrying on, dealing in farm implements and other machinery. Mr. Woodward was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank, a progressive financial concern of Glyndon, and is now serving as president of that institution.

In June, 1897, Mr. Woodward was married to Bertha M. Webb, the daughter of R. B. Webb, of Glyndon, and to this union one son has been born, Roy W. Mr. Woodward and family are prominent in all the social activities of the community, having an active interest in the welfare and betterment of their village. Mr. Woodward has served several terms on the village council.

W. R. BRIGGS.

W. R. Briggs, a well-known floriculturist at Moorhead, was born in Bloomington, Illinois, August 1, 1875, a son of W. R. and Mary (De Board) Briggs. The father was born in Ireland and the mother in Pennsylvania. The senior W. R. Briggs came to America when a young man and located in Illinois, near Bloomington, where he engaged in the business of a gardener and continued in this business for many years. His children were: Minnie, W. R., B. H., R. H., J. W., Frank and David. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Bloomington.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the common schools of Illinois, where he spent his boyhood years. He worked with his father as a gardener until the death of his father. At the age of eighteen years he started out to make his own living and worked for farmers in the neighborhood for four or five years and then engaged in farming on his own account. He farmed in Illinois for about two years and then removed to Missouri and farmed in that state for two years. Then, with a cash capital of three thousand dollars, he packed up his household goods and removed to Texas, with the expectation of increasing his property possessions. After an expe-



MR. AND MRS. W. R. BRIGGS.

rience of about one year and a half in the business of farming and gardening in Texas he found that his expectations were not realized. He lost practically all that he had brought with him, as well as the profit on his labor during the time of his sojourn in Texas. In 1906 he removed to Tower City, North Dakota, arriving at that place with eighty dollars in cash and very little in the way of household goods. He engaged in farming in that state for two years and by economy and industry greatly improved his condition in the way of worldly possessions. In 1908 he came to Moorhead, and bought a tract of ground and engaged in gardening. In the fall of that year he built the first one of his greenhouses. He has added others as the business increased and now has five large greenhouses, with all modern appointments and conveniences, his plant now carrying about thirty thousand square feet of glass. Mr. Briggs cultivates all varieties of vegetables, plants and flowers and finds a ready market for his product in Moorhead and Fargo.

On February 19, 1902, W. R. Briggs was married to Eva Kate Miller and to this union four children have been born: Harold, Gertrude, Mildred and Francis. Mr. and Mrs. Briggs are members of the First Methodist Episcopal church at Moorhead. Mr. Briggs is a member of the school board and his fraternal affiliation is with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically, he is independent.

OTTO J. MORTENSON.

Otto J. Mortenson, secretary of the Moorhead Realty Company at Moorhead and one of the best-known real-estate dealers in this part of the state, is a native of the Red River valley and has lived in this section most of his life. He was born on a pioneer farm, over the river in Cass county, North Dakota, July 11, 1880, son of Paul and Maren (Lee) Mortenson, natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1870, proceeding on up into the Red River valley and settling on a homestead farm in Cass county, North Dakota, where the latter spent her last days and where the former is still living, one of the well-established pioneer farmers of that community. Paul Mortenson has held office in his home township and was one of the organizers of the church in his neighborhood.

Reared on the homestead farm, Otto J. Mortenson received his elementary schooling in the schools of that vicinity and then entered Concordia

College at Moorhead, from which institution he was graduated in 1900, with the degree of Bachelor of Accounts. Upon leaving school Mr. Mortenson became engaged in the office of a real-estate dealer at Moorhead and after awhile engaged in the real-estate business on his own account in that city and was thus engaged there until 1904, when he went to Sawyer, over in Ward county, North Dakota, where he established the Sawyer State Bank and remained there, acting as cashier of that concern, until 1908, when he went over into Montana, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in that state and remained there, improving and developing his tract, until January 1, 1911, when he returned to Moorhead, where he since has made his residence. Upon returning to Moorhead Mr. Mortenson resumed his connection with the real-estate business and was engaged in the interest of various land firms until 1915, in which year he organized the Moorhead Realty Company, of which he since has been the secretary, and has worked up an extensive business in that line, his operations in realty covering a wide territory hereabout.

On June 23, 1904, Otto J. Mortenson was united in marriage to Leonora H. Dahl, daughter of T. H. Dahl and wife, of Moorhead, and to this union six children have been born, Ethel, Carroll, Kenneth (deceased), Philip, Wilbur and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Mortenson are members of Trinity Lutheran church at Moorhead and take a proper interest in church works, as well as in the general good works of the community. Fraternally, Mr. Mortenson is affiliated with the Masonic order and takes a warm interest in the affairs of the same.

JOHN E. BURUD.

Success as a general farmer has come to John E. Burud because he worked hard and managed well and he is now enabled to spend his declining years in retirement. He is one of the well-known citizens of Goose Prairie township, Clay county. He was born on November 1, 1854, in Norway, a son of Ellef Jenson and Barbara (Erickson) Burud, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, but came to America in 1881, locating in Clay county, Minnesota. There they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Hagen township, which they developed into a good farm through their industry, and there continued to carry on general farming until about 1894 when they

sold out and spent the rest of their lives with their son John E. on his farm in Goose Prairie township. The death of the father occurred in 1910 at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, and that of the mother in 1907. She was two years younger than her husband. To these parents five children were born, namely: John E., of this sketch; Mary, who died in the spring of 1917; Edward, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 4, Goose Prairie township; Mrs. Tilda McTeney, living in Chicago, and Ole, who lives in Ulen, Minnesota, and works on the Northern Pacific railroad.

John E. Burud grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He immigrated to America when twenty-three years old in 1878, alone, and came on west to Clay county, where he worked out for two and one-half years, then took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Goose Prairie township. He worked hard developing this land, but prospering with advancing years, he later bought more land and now owns one of the choice farms of his township, consisting of four hundred and forty acres. He has made all improvements on this land, erecting a comfortable home and numerous substantial outbuildings, and setting out a large grove. Everything about the place denotes thrift and good management. He has been very successful, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He raised some pure-blooded stock.

Mr. Burud was married in Lake Park, Minnesota, in 1880, to Caroline Thompson, who was born in Rice county, this state, in 1859. Her parents were natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota in pioneer days, locating first in Rice county. Later they moved to Becker county, where they spent the rest of their lives, both being now deceased, the mother dying when her daughter Caroline was twelve years old. Not long thereafter, Mr. Thompson sold out and bought a farm in Becker, where he lived until his death in 1910. To Mr. and Mrs. Burud four children were born, namely: Theodore, who died when twenty-two years old; Albert, Oscar and Joseph.

Mr. Burud bought property in the village of Ulen, Goose Prairie township, in 1915, and moved thereto, retiring from active farm work. He has since rented out his land to Ole Holt. Mr. Burud served as township supervisor for many years, also as a director of the school board in his district. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he was a trustee for a number of years.

P. J. SHEA.

P. J. Shea was born in Hampton county, Massachusetts, October 15, 1806, a son of Michael and Mary (Sullivan) Shea, both natives of Ireland. His father came to America in 1856 and located in Hampton county, Massachusetts, where he engaged in his trade as a brick mason for about twenty years. In 1876, he brought his family to Minnesota, located in Glyndon, Clay county, and found employment with the St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Company. He entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, and entered a tree claim of another one hundred and sixty acres in Felton township. He continued his employment with the railroad company while his son worked the farm. He is still living at Glyndon; his wife died several years ago. Their children are: Rose, P. J., the subject of this review; Mary and James. Michael Shea was the first postmaster of Felton.

P. J. Shea had a very limited schooling when he was young and is practically self-educated. As a boy, he assisted his father in the postoffice, and also was employed as a time-keeper for the railroad company. When yet in his youthful years, he was occupied in looking after his father's farm, while the father was working on the railroad. Mr. Shea did some of the first breaking of the virgin soil in Clay county, using an ox team to draw the plow. He continued on the farm until he was twenty-one, and then started to work for the railroad, in the employment of which he continued for about four years. He first worked for the Great Northern and afterward for the Northern Pacific railroad. In 1893 he embarked in the general mercantile business at Sabin, Minnesota, in partnership with his uncle, James Shea. He continued in business at this place for about five years and then came to Clynder and established the firm of P. J. Shea & Company in the general merchandising business. He has conducted this business alone since that time. In 1889, he started a hotel at this place and conducted that in connection with his mercantile interests for about eight years. Mr. Shea also has large farming interests to occupy his time and attention. He began making investments of his savings in land several years ago and secured a considerable body of land when it was available for purchase at a low price.

Mr. Shea was one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Glyndon, and has been vice-president of this bank since the time of its organization. He has served two terms as president of the school board, and was president of the village council some years ago. He helped to organize the Glyndon

Telephone Company, of which he was the first president. In 1914 he built a fine two-story modern home with beautiful grounds and modern equipment. In addition to the other business activities in which Mr. Shea has been interested he was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Grain and Lumber Company of Glyndon, of which he is president and E. D. Grant, vice-president. In these, and in all other business enterprises, Mr. Shea is a leading spirit. He is the leading business man of Glyndon and is always ready to contribute his full share in the promotion of any enterprise or movement that tends to the growth and welfare of the town and community.

In 1889, P. J. Shea and Julia Timrue were united in marriage, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Florence M., Frances E., Aquinia, Adeline and Edward T. The Shea family are very delightfully situated in their new two-story, modern home at Glyndon, which Mr. Shea built in 1914.

JAMES LARSON.

James Larson, cashier of the State Bank of Halstad, a member of the school board at Halstad and the manager of a well-improved farm on the outskirts of that village, was born on a farm in Houston county, this state, May 10, 1873, son of Peter and Maria (Christopherson) Larson (Gagnum), natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota about 1869 and settled in Houston county, where they remained until 1879, when they moved to Cass county, North Dakota, where they spent the rest of their lives, with the exception of five years spent in Ransom county, that state. Peter Larson and wife reared a family of twelve children.

Reared on the paternal farm in North Dakota, James Larson completed his common-school course in the schools of Ransom county, North Dakota, and supplemented the same by a course in Concordia College at Moorhead. In this connection he gratefully acknowledges a debt of gratitude to his uncle, E. E. Bakke, of Onawa, Iowa, who supported him for eighteen months during his school days there. Upon completing his schooling in Iowa James Larson resumed his labors on the home farm in Buffalo, North Dakota, and there remained until he was twenty-five years of age, when, in 1898, he came over into Minnesota and located at Halstad, where he remained until his marriage in 1901, when he moved up into Polk county and there remained until 1911, in which year he returned to Halstad and has ever since been engaged there as cashier of the State Bank of Halstad.

In addition to his banking interests, Mr. Larson is the manager of a well-improved farm located just one-half mile east of Halstad and gives considerable attention to the raising of early Ohio potatoes and has done much to stimulate the cultivation of potatoes in that part of the county. Mr. Larson gives his earnest attention to local affairs and for the past five years has been serving as a member of the local school board.

It was in 1901 that James Larson was united in marriage to Margaret Holmberg, daughter of Charles and Beret Holmberg, and to this union seven children have been born, Harriet, Alton, Victor, Jödis, Helen, Erling and Aaron. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and Mr. Larson has served as secretary of the local congregation of that church.

OLE I. GRINA.

Ole I. Grina, local manager of the plant of the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company at Halstad, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state the greater part of his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Trondhjem township, Ottertail county, April 19, 1874, son of Iver O. and Oline L. (Ohe) Grina, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former of whom, a pioneer of this section of Minnesota, is now living at Pelican Rapids and the latter of whom died on February 22, 1914.

Iver O. Grina was but three years of age when his parents, Ole H. and Martha (Moger) Grina, left their native Norway and came to the United States, settling in Clayton county, Iowa, where they homesteaded a quarter of a section of land and where they remained for twenty years or more, or until their removal to Minnesota and settlement in Ottertail county, where their last days were spent. Reared on the homestead farm in Iowa, Iver O. Grina remained there until the days of his young manhood, when he started out to do for himself and came up into this section of Minnesota, locating on a homestead farm which he bought from a dissatisfied homesteader in Trondhjem township, Ottertail county, later buying one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land adjoining the same, and there he lived until his retirement from the farm, after the death of his wife, in 1914 and removal to Pelican Rapids, where he is now living. Mrs. Grina was a daughter of Lars and Ingeborg (Waterud) Ohe, who were among the earliest settlers of Erhard Grove township, Ottertail county. To Iver

O. Grina and wife nine children were born, those besides the subject of this sketch, the first-born, being as follow: Lars I., who is engaged in the lumber business at Felton; Melvin I., who is engaged in the hardware, implement and lumber business at Erhard; Conrad I., who is engaged in the lumber and machine business at Borup; Joseph, who died in infancy; Joseph, second, who is farming his grandfather's farm, which was bought by I. O., in Ottertail county; Theodore, who is in business at Erhard; Inga, also living at Erhard, and Emma, who is living with her father at Pelican Rapids. Iver O. Grina is a member of the Lutheran church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. In 1913 Iver O. Grina helped to organize the Erhard State Bank at Erhard and is a member of the board of directors of the same. During his long residence on the farm he served his home township in various public capacities and did much for the development of the region in which he settled in pioneer days.

Ole I. Grina was reared on the homestead farm on which he was born and received his schooling in the district school in that neighborhood. He remained on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age and in November, 1895, started working for O. E. Juverud at Rothsay, and was thus engaged for something more than three years, at the end of which time he went over into North Dakota and took a homestead in Benson county. A year later, in April, 1901, he returned to this state and began working for the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company at Borup. He was married in the summer of that year and remained at Borup for five years and one month, at the end of which time he returned to North Dakota and engaged in the lumber business for himself, locating at Columbus, in Ward county, North Dakota, remaining there for nearly four years, from July, 1906, to March, 1910, in which latter month he went to Montana and was there engaged for four years in the lumber trade, connected with the Northern Montana Lumber Company. On April 4, 1914, he returned to Minnesota, resuming his former connection with the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company and has since been engaged as the local manager of that company's extensive plant at Halstad, one of the best-known lumber men in this part of the state.

It was on June 15, 1901, that Ole I. Grina was united in marriage to Anna C. Ringstad, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Alice Onida. Mr. and Mrs. Grina are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper part in church affairs. They have a very pleasant home at Halstad and take an interested part in the general social activities of that

village. Mr. Grina is independent in his political views, but takes an earnest interest in local civic affairs, ever willing to promote any movement having as its object the advancement of the common welfare.

JOHN W. GROMMESH.

John W. Grommesh, a well-known retired landowner, living at Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Sand Creek township, Scott county, Minnesota, on October 14, 1855. He is the son of John and Clara (Wagner) Grommesh, both natives of Luxemburg, who left that country and came to America the year before their son, John W., was born.

On arriving in this country John Grommesh and his wife proceeded out to Minnesota and settled in Scott county about 1854, being among the early settlers in that part of the state. John Grommesh pre-empted a tract of timber land in that county and proceeded to clear and prepare it for the planting of crops. After considerable labor he succeeded in getting the land into condition, and remained there engaged in general farming until 1861. In the latter year he moved to Jackson township, Scott county, and resumed farming operations, meeting with success during the greater part of the time. In 1875 he moved to Lakeville township, Dakota county, and settled on a farm located twenty-four miles south of St. Paul, where he remained for five years. In 1880 John Grommesh made his final move and went to House township, Cass county, North Dakota, and there bought out a homesteader. On the land thus acquired he continued to farm for the remainder of his life, his death occurring in February, 1902. His wife had predeceased him by many years, her death having occurred in 1885, on the homestead settled on by her husband in 1880. To John Grommesh and wife the following children were born: John W., the subject of this sketch, Celia, Michael, Clara, Hubert, Mary (deceased), and Lewis. They were earnest members of the Catholic church and their children were reared in the same faith.

John W. Grommesh was educated in the public and parochial schools, after which he helped his father in the work of the farm for some time. He then started for himself as a farmer in Dakota county, Minnesota, and remained there engaged in general farming until the fall of 1880, at which time he went with his parents to Cass county, North Dakota, and there bought out a homesteader, as his father had done, and stayed on the homestead for six months, at the end of which time he sold out. He later farmed



MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. GROOMES.

some school land and put in two crops while in that territory, but the grasshoppers came along and destroyed everything.

In June, 1882, Mr. Grommesh came to Clay county and commenced to farm a tract of railroad land in Alliance township, six and one-half miles west of Barnesville, and continued thus engaged for six years. In 1888 he moved to the town of Barnesville, living there for two years, and worked for the great Northern Railroad Company. By the winter of 1890 he had saved one thousand five hundred dollars by hard work and thrifty habits, and proceeded to purchase land for himself. He bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Wilkins county, six miles southwest of Barnesville, and engaged in general farming for about six years. In 1896 he returned to Barnesville; but in the meantime, in 1891, he had bought two hundred acres of the land he had previously been farming in Alliance township, Clay county. He has lived in Barnesville since 1896 and has bought and operated several farms up to recently, when he retired from the more active duties of farm life. He now owns three hundred and ninety-four acres of prime land at the edge of Barnesville and twenty acres within the city limits, which latter parcel he operates personally. He is also the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of what was formerly railroad land in Barnesville township, and one hundred and twenty acres which adjoins the latter, consisting of school land, and which is situated in Alliance township. In all his purchases and sales of land Mr. Grommesh has met with marked success, and he mainly attributes his good fortune to hard work and to good crops, which latter have resulted in his case from close attention to all details of cultivation.

On September 23, 1878, John W. Grommesh was united in marriage to Julia Stork, who was born in New Market, Scott county, this state, a daughter of John and Katherine (Zeimat) Stork. Her parents were born in Luxemburg and came to America in 1854 and located first at Lakeville, Scott county, and later went to New Market, in the same county. The Storks were farming people and spent the remainder of their lives in Scott county. Mr. and Mrs. Stork were the parents of nine children, as follow: Katherine (deceased), Richard, Nicholas, Henry, Minnie, Mary, Kate, Joseph (deceased) and Julia, wife of Mr. Grommesh. These parents and their children were members of the Catholic church.

Mr. and Mrs. Grommesh are the parents of two children, namely, John and Hubert, who are engaged in farming at Barnesville, and are well-known citizens of that district. The Grommesh family are earnest members of the Catholic church and are warmly interested in all its good works as well as in

all movements making for the welfare of the community. Mr. Grommesh and his two sons, John and Hubert, are members of the Catholic Order of Foresters and are ardent supporters of that fraternal organization and of all neighborhood good works. Mr. Grommesh was for two years clerk of the Alliance township school board. He also served as township chairman for three years and as alderman in Barnesville for some years, and in all these public positions he rendered excellent services to the citizens.

John Grommesh, eldest son of the subject of this sketch, was married to Minnie Palman, of Barnesville, and they are the parents of two children, Cecilia and Kenneth. Hubert Grommesh, the younger son, married Christina Lander, of Prior Lake, Scott county, this state, and they are the parents of one child, Lucy.

ALERT ARNESTAD.

Alert Arnestad, fire warden of Ada, who operates a general automobile-repair and vulcanizing shop at that place, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Norman county since 1881, the year in which that county was organized as a civic entity. He was born on September 28, 1858, son of Hans Gulmonson Jacob and Eliza Leeberg, natives of that same country, farming people, who spent all their lives there. They were the parents of nine children, Theo, Carl, Olaf (deceased), Ludwig, Alert, Charlotta, Ole, Casper and Halvor (deceased).

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Alert Arnestad early began learning the trade of wagon-maker and became a proficient craftsman in that line. In March of 1881 he married there and he and his bride straightway started for the United States. Upon their arrival here they came on out to this then frontier section of Minnesota and settled at Ada, where they ever since have made their home, thus being recognized as among the real "old settlers" of that city. Upon his arrival at Ada Mr. Arnestad secured employment at his trade in a local blacksmith shop and was thus engaged for about two years, at the end of which time he engaged in carpenter work and was thus occupied for five years or more, during which time he erected many of the houses built at Ada and surrounding country during that period. Mr. Arnestad then began farming near Ada, but after two years of that form of work gave up farming and began working in the establishment of Andrews & Hanson, hardware and lumber, at Ada,

and remained with that firm for eleven years, at the end of which time he transferred his services to Loiness & Shordahl, hardware, and was with that concern for some years. He then started a hardware store and tin shop of his own and operated the same for three or four years, or until failing health compelled his temporary retirement. About a year ago Mr. Arnestad started a vulcanizing and repair shop at Ada and is meeting with a good measure of success in his new enterprise. Mr. Arnestad has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and is now serving his fourth year as fire warden at Ada.

It was on March 21, 1881, in Norway, that Alert Arnestad was united in marriage to Martha Ilang, who also was born in that country, a daughter of Ingebright and Olena (Ingebrightson) Ilang, farming people, and to this union seven children have been born, Eliza, Arnold, Helga, Bertha, Adel, Ruth and Esther, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Arnestad are members of the Hauges Lutheran church and have ever taken much interest in church work.

EDWIN O. STUDLIEN.

Edwin O. Studlien, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in March, 1865. He is a son of Ole O. and Bertha (Lundelein) Studlien, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and made their home until 1853, when they immigrated to America, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, and bought a farm. There the father established a comfortable home and developed a fine farm. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that county and he and his family endured the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. Ole O. Studlien continued to reside there until 1874, when he moved to Clay county and bought the farm in Kragnes township on which his son Edwin O. now resides. There he spent the rest of his life, engaged in general farming with his usual success, his death occurring there in 1908 at the advanced age of eighty-two years. His widow also reached the age of eighty-two, dying in 1914 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Olena Kragnes. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Inger, who is married and lives in Houston county; Jane, deceased; Galena, the wife of O. E. Tangen; Mrs. Olena Kragnes, mentioned above; Edwin O., the subject of this sketch; Mary Ann, who is married and lives in Moorhead; Otis, who disappeared in St. Paul, Minnesota, in December, 1891, and it is

believed that he is dead, and Robin, who lives with Mrs. Olena Kragnes, his sister.

Edwin O. Studlien grew up on the home farm in Houston county and there attended the district schools. He has devoted his life to general farming and has lived on his present farm in section 25, Kragnes township, since 1876, buying the place from his father in the year 1899. He has kept it well improved, replacing all the old buildings with new ones. He first bought a half section, later one hundred and fifty acres in section 26, and later a quarter section in section 13, which he later sold. He now owns five hundred and forty acres, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, ranking among the leading farmers of his township.

Mr. Studlien was married in 1889 to Engeborg Roholt, who was born in 1865 in Norway, where she grew up and attended school. She came to America in the fall of 1885, making the trip to Minnesota alone, to join her two brothers who had come here from Norway several years previously and had settled in Clay county. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Studlien, namely: Olaf, Eugene, Elida, Anna and Edwin, all of whom are living.

Mr. Studlien is now a member of the board of township supervisors and is also clerk of school district No. 101, having held this latter position since the district was organized in 1901. He has been a member of the Modern Woodmen lodge for twenty years, or since 1897. His family are Lutherans. He is one of the well-known and influential men in public affairs in Kragnes township.

BENDT O. HITTERDAL.

There is no better farmer in Goose Prairie township, Clay county, than Bendt O. Hitterdal, who was born in Norway, November 30, 1855. He is a son of Ole and Bertha (Hertse) Hitterdal, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1869. In that year they immigrated to America and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they spent two years, then came to Clay county, Minnesota, driving an ox-team to a prairie-schooner overland, in 1871, and thus were among the early pioneers of this county. The trip from Iowa took about one month. The father at once took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, lying

less than a mile east of the present village of Hitterdal, in Goose Prairie township. He worked hard at developing the land into a farm, erected suitable buildings and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, his death occurring about 1874. The village of Hitterdal was named in honor of this old family, which was one of the first to settle in that locality. Six children were born to Ole Hitterdal and wife, namely: Mary, the oldest; Bendt O., of this sketch; Lars, Maria, Ole, Jr., and Hannah.

The father of the above named children was influential in the affairs of his township, and he helped organize the first church in the community, known as the Conference Lutheran church.

Bendt O. Hitterdal spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended school. He went to school only about one month in America. He was fourteen years old when his parents brought him to Iowa, and he came with the family to Clay county, Minnesota, and helped develop the home farm at Hitterdal. When he became of legal age, in 1878, he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres where he has since made his home. He worked hard at adding all the improvements on his land, including a comfortable home and a convenient set of outbuildings. He has seen the county develop from a wild prairie to a fine farming region during his continuous residence here of forty-six years and has played well his part in this development, being regarded as a public-spirited and useful citizen all the while. When he first located on the land he planted a large grove which is now tall and flourishing. He has prospered through good management and close application until he is one of the substantial men of his vicinity. He later took up three-fourths of a section, one-fourth of which was a tree claim, and this he has also well improved. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Hittedral was married about 1879 to Anna Setter, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of Paul Larson Setter, who removed to Goose Prairie township, Clay county, Minnesota, about 1877. To Mr. and Mrs. Hitterdal, six children have been born, namely: Oliver, Albert, Joseph, deceased; Andree, Edjul and Bernhard.

Politically, Mr. Hitterdal is an independent. He helped organize Goose Prairie township and was the first chairman of the township board. He has since held various township offices. He helped organize the school district in which he resides, when the district included the entire township within its borders. He was a member of the first school board and he has been treasurer of his school district most of the time since. He also helped organize the Union Lutheran church at Hitterdal.

LOUIS LEMKE.

Louis Lemke, one of the most substantial farmers of Clay county and proprietor of all of section 31 of Elkton township, the seat of his pleasant home just north of the village of Baker, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since he was fourteen years of age. He was born on September 5, 1858, son of Carl and Christina (Blomk) Lemke, both natives of that same country, who came to the United States in 1872 with their family and settled on a farm in the vicinity of Chicago, in Cook county, Illinois, where the father spent his last days. His widow died at the home of one of her sons in Charlton county, Minnesota. Carl Lemke and his wife were the parents of three sons, the subject of this sketch having two brothers, John Lemke, now a resident of Martin county, this state, and August Lemke, of Nebraska.

As noted above, Louis Lemke was fourteen years of age when he came to this country with his parents in 1872 and for nineteen years thereafter he made his home in Cook county, Illinois, engaged in farming. In 1892 he moved from Illinois to Iowa and located on a farm in Franklin county, that state, where he remained for eighteen years and where he developed a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres. In 1909, Mr. Lemke disposed of his interests in Iowa and came up into Minnesota, locating on the farm just north of Baker, where he is now living and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Mr. Lemke owns the whole of section 31 in Elkton township and has improved the place in fine shape, having erected an entirely new set of farm buildings there since taking possession of the same, a hen-house being the only structure of the old set of buildings remaining. In addition to his general grain farming, Mr. Lemke has for some time given considerable attention to the raising of potatoes and has done much to encourage the cultivation of that crop in that neighborhood.

In 1881 Louis Lemke was united in marriage to Sophia Possehl, a sister of H. C. Possehl, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume, and to this union have been born fourteen children, all of whom are living, namely: Fred, who lives in Franklin county, Iowa; Amanda, who married Fred Fahrman and is living in Elmwood township; Minnie, wife of Louis Lenthe, of Elkton township; Herman, who is at home; Eddie, also at home; Martha, wife of George Meyer, of Franklin county, Iowa; Anna, wife of Carl Carr, of Elkton township, and Edna. Louie, Alvin, Arthur, Albert; Melinda and Lillie, who are at home. The

Lenkes are members of the German Evangelical Lutheran church at Sabin and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live, helpful in promoting all agencies having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

J. PIERCE WOLFE.

One of the substantial and successful men of Moorhead, Clay county, who is engaged in the insurance business, in which he has met with much success, is J. Pierce Wolfe, who was born at Osseo, Hennepin county, Minnesota, on July 11, 1872, a son of John Wolfe and wife, who are prominent farmers and well-known and highly respected people of Nicollet county, Minnesota. The parents were much interested in the education of their children, and after the son, J. Pierce, completed his education in the local schools at St. Peter, Minnesota, he entered the Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter, where he later completed the course of study, in 1892.

Soon after having completed his work at St. Peter, Mr. Wolfe came to Moorhead, where he established himself in business and where he has since resided. When he first came to Moorhead, he kept books for Jacob Kiefer for some years, and in April, 1898, he entered the general insurance business, in which he has met with much success. He has devoted his best efforts to this business and is today the agent and adjuster of the Security and Reliance Insurance companies for the states of North and South Dakota, Montana and the western part of Minnesota. Further, he is associated with E. A. Davis of Minneapolis as general agents of the hail department of the Security Insurance Company of Connecticut for North and South Dakota, Montana and Minnesota. Withal, as an insurance man, he is today recognized as one of the best in the state. Moreover, he is one of the directors of the Equity Manufacturing Company of Moorhead, and is an advisory director of the U. S. I. Realty Company, a million-dollar corporation of Minneapolis. Even though Mr. Wolfe's business interests cover a wide extent of territory, yet his methods and progressive spirit place him in a position to know every detail in the territory in which his interests are located.

It was on May 12, 1904, that J. Pierce Wolfe was united in marriage to Alice Ambbs of Moorhead, and to this union two children have been born, Sarah and John, both of whom are now attending the local schools and are at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe are active members of the

Episcopal church and have long been prominent in the social and the religious life of the community in which they live, and where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. They have always taken the greatest interest in the educational and moral development of the district, and their influence has had a marked effect on the high standing of the community.

Mr. Wolfe is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and has attained the Shriner degree, and is also a member of the Elks Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen and the Knights of the Maccabees. Of the latter organization he is a member of the state executive board, a position he has held for twelve years. He has also taken a prominent part in the local affairs and for the past eight years he has been a member of the state Democratic central committee, to which he has devoted much time, thus winning much praise for the efficient work that he has rendered.

JOHN C. SULERUD.

John C. Sulerud, president of the State Bank of Halstad, former president of the village of Halstad, for years actively engaged in the hardware business at Halstad and the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres north of that village, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-one years of age, having made his home in Norman county ever since he came over. He was born on January 5, 1862, seventh in order of birth of the eight children born to his parents, Christen A. and Karen (Johnson) Sulerud, also natives of Norway, the former of whom was a blacksmith and farmer and both of whom spent all their lives in their native land. The others of these children are Carl, Maren, Johan, Martin, Caroline, Sophia and the Hon. Christen L. Sulerud, former representative in the Legislature from the sixty-first Minnesota district, who is engaged with his brother, the subject of this sketch, in the hardware business at Halstad and a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Reared on a farm in his native land, John C. Sulerud received his schooling in the common schools there and at the age of fifteen went into the city of Christiania, where he became engaged as a clerk in a store and where he remained until he was twenty-one years of age, when, in 1883, he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, his destination

JOHN C. STERNED AND FAMILY.



being Norman county. For the first year after his arrival here he was engaged in farm labor and then, in the fall of 1884, he secured employment as a clerk in a store at Ada and was thus engaged at that place for about nine years, or until 1894, when he and his brother, C. L. Sulerud, opened a hardware store at Halstad and have ever since been thus engaged at that place, long having been regarded as among the leading merchants and citizens of that thriving little city. Since 1914 John C. Sulerud has been the president of the State Bank of Halstad and in addition to his banking and mercantile interests at Halstad is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres, two miles north of the village, to the operation of which he gives his interested attention. Mr. Sulerud has given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and has served as a member of the village council and as president of the same.

Mr. Sulerud has been twice married. His first wife, who was Anna Aaker, daughter of Hans Aaker, died in 1895 without issue and on August 3, 1902, he married Christine Holmberg, to which union three children have been born: Allen C., Ruth and John Clinton. Mr. and Mrs. Sulerud are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an active interest in church work, for the past twenty years Mr. Sulerud having been treasurer of the local congregation.

Mrs. Sulerud is the daughter and only child of Arnt and Bereth (Brotten) Reiten, natives of Norway, who upon coming to this country settled in Houston county, this state, later coming up into the Red River country and settling in Norman county, where Arnt Reiten died in 1876. His widow married Charles Holmberg two years later and by his death in 1879 was again left a widow. She is still living and is now making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Sulerud. By her second marriage she is the mother of one child, a daughter, Margaret, wife of James Larson, cashier of the State Bank of Halstad and a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Charles Holmberg was one of the pioneers of Norman county, having settled in the neighborhood of what is now the Brant farm, near Halstad, in 1870, he and his party camping there in a tent until they could make arrangements for permanent places of habitation. At that time Indians still were numerous throughout this region and game was plentiful. In 1914 Mrs. Sulerud visited the scene of that pioneer camp and there unearthed some of the camp utensils that had been left by the party of settlers.

DAVID E. FULTON.

David E. Fulton, auditor of Norman county, cashier of the Farmers Bank of Ada and for years actively engaged in the real-estate business in that city, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, a resident of Norman county since he was eighteen years of age. He was born in the city of Red Wing, this state, in 1861, a son of Samuel M. and Elizabeth J. (Hutchinson) Fulton, both of whom were born in Butler county, Pennsylvania, and who came to Minnesota in 1859, locating at Red Wing, where Samuel M. Fulton engaged in the drayage business.

In 1879 Samuel M. Fulton left Red Wing and with his family came up into this part of the state and settled on a homestead tract in what later came to be organized as Winchester township, Norman county, which farm he improved and there made his home for fifteen years or more, or until his retirement from the active labors of the farm, when he moved to Ada, where he and his wife spent their last days in the home of their son, the subject of this sketch. Samuel M. Fulton and wife formerly were members of the Presbyterian church, but when the Congregationalists effected an organization here they became affiliated with that denomination. Of their children five are now living, Alzada, David E., Mary, J. H. and Minnie M.

As noted above, David E. Fulton was eighteen years of age when he came to this section with his parents from Red Wing in 1879 and he at once entered upon the task of aiding in the development of the homestead farm in Winchester township. In 1883, he by that time having arrived at legal age, he took a homestead claim of his own and for a short time followed farming on his own account, but presently gave that up and engaged in the buying of grain in the neighboring county of Polk, presently engaging in the real-estate business at Ada, in which he was engaged for about four or five years, at the end of which time he was made cashier of a bank at Beltrami, where he remained for four years. He then returned to Ada, resuming there his real-estate business, and in the fall of 1904 was elected auditor of Norman county, a position of trust and responsibility he ever since has held, the voters of the county displaying their confidence in him by successive re-elections. Mr. Fulton helped to organize the Farmers Bank at Ada and is the cashier of that institution.

In December, 1887, David E. Fulton was united in marriage to Ella M. Phelps, of Dane county, Wisconsin, a daughter of Rolland Phelps and

wife, and to this union two daughters have been born, Jean Marie and Millicent. Mr. and Mrs. Fulton attend the Congregational church and take a proper part in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general social activities of their home city. Mr. Fulton is a member of the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Knights of Pythias and of the Modern Woodmen of America, and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest.

MAGNUS P. NELSON.

Magnus P. Nelson is of Swedish nativity and ancestry, which runs back through several generations. He was born in Sweden, February 20, 1845, a son of Nels Pearson and Anne Nelson, both born in Sweden. The father was a farmer in Sweden and spent his entire life in that country. He had five children: Nellie, Ole, Magnus P., Sigre and Ellen. He was a member of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Magnus P. Nelson was educated in the public schools in Sweden and worked with his father on the farm in his youthful days. Later he started farming on his own account. With a view of seeking larger opportunities for a livelihood, he came to America in 1866. He located first at Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he found employment on a farm, continuing at that place for six years. In 1871 he returned to his native land for a visit and after remaining there for a short time returned again to America, bringing his mother with him. He located again in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and resumed work on the farm. In 1880, he came to Clay county, Minnesota, and located on a tract of land that he had bought in 1878. This land comprises a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, lying on the river three miles south of Moorhead. In 1883 he bought eighty acres of land in section 30, on which he put up buildings and made other improvements. He made his home on this place and was engaged in general farming until the spring of 1914, at which time he removed to Moorhead, where he has since continued to live. At one time Mr. Nelson was the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of land, a part of which he has sold, and now owns three hundred and twenty acres of good farming land. Though living a somewhat retired life, Mr. Nelson continues to look after his farming interests and continues to take an active interest in public affairs. As one of the pioneers of Clay county, he has always occupied a prominent place in county

affairs and is held in high esteem in the community of which he has been an honored citizen.

Mr. Nelson was one of the organizers of the Swedish Lutheran church, in Moorhead, in 1880, and has been for many years a deacon in the same and prominent in all the activities of the society. In civic positions he has served as supervisor in the township of Moorhead; also as chairman of the township board. At the time of removal from the township to the town of Moorhead, he was treasurer of the former. He also served for some time as clerk of the school board of the township.

In 1884, Mr. Nelson was married to Carrie Jenson and to this union five children were born, namely: Edith, Agnes, Manfred, Alfred and Ernest; the latter is living on the old home farm.

ARTHUR A. McCARTAN.

Arthur A. McCartan, president of the Barnesville Record-Review Publishing Company, head of the real-estate firm of McCartan & Whalen at Barnesville and a member of the common council of that city, for years one of the most energetic and public-spirited citizens of Barnesville, was formerly an Iowa farmer, but since becoming a resident of Barnesville in 1901 has been engaged in the real-estate and newspaper business and has done well there. He was born in the city of Dubuque, Iowa, October 3, 1867, son of Bernard and Mary (McNamara) McCartan, the former of whom was born in Ireland and the latter in the city of Buffalo, New York, who were the parents of thirteen children, all of whom grew to maturity save three. For some time after he came to this country, as a young man, Bernard McCartan followed the vocation of a miner, but later became a farmer and his last days were spent in Iowa.

Reared on a farm in Iowa, Arthur A. McCartan received his schooling in the schools of that state, and early became engaged in farming, which vocation he followed in that state until 1901, in which year he came up here into the Red River country and located at Barnesville, where he became engaged in the real-estate business and where he has ever since continued actively engaged in that line, head of the firm of McCartan & Whalen. About two years after he located at Barnesville the Record-Review Publishing Company was organized at that place and that company has since been engaged there in the publication of the *Barnesville Record*. Since the

organization of that company Mr. McCartan has taken an active interest in the same and most of the time has served the company in the capacity of president, which position he now occupies, though until lately giving little attention to the actual details of newspaper work, his real-estate operations occupying the greater part of his time. In January, 1917, the manager of the *Record* died and Mr. McCartan was compelled to assume the management of the paper until such time as he could find a successor for the late manager. Mr. McCartan takes an active interest in local political affairs and for the past four years and more has been serving as a member of the city council from his ward.

In November, 1914, Arthur A. McCartan was united in marriage to Gundrun Scow, daughter of Erick O. Scow, of Halstad, in the neighboring county of Norman, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Arthur Austin. Mr. and Mrs. McCartan are members of the Catholic church and take a proper interest in parish affairs.

A. T. THOMAS.

A. T. Thomas, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Norway on June 24, 1848, and there he grew to manhood and attended the common schools. He is a son of Torge and Renne Islik (Tommas) Tommas, natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, spending their lives there, the father dying when about forty-six years old, his wife having preceded him to the grave by three years. The father was a laborer all his life. To these parents four children were born, namely: Osmon, who makes his home in Alaska; Sarah, who is married and lives in Minnesota; A. T., the subject of this sketch, and Christie, who died at about the age of seven years.

A. T. Thomas was nineteen years old when his father died. He remained in Norway until he was twenty-one, when he immigrated to America, locating first in Houston county, Minnesota, and for some time worked out as a hired hand on a farm. He saved his earnings and in 1878, after he had spent three years in Clay county, he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 15, Kragnes township, later buying one hundred and sixty acres in section 10, same township. He has made all the improvements on his land, including a substantial set of buildings. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and has one of the best farms

in his locality, in which he has lived since the pioneer days, when this section of the state was sparsely settled.

On June 30, 1890, Mr. Thomas was married to Anna K. Gletna, in Fargo, North Dakota. She was born in Norway on March 11, 1862, and there she spent her girlhood and attended school. Her parents, Knut K. and Maria L. (Bergstal) Gletna, were natives of Norway. He died in Norway in about 1913. The mother is still living in Norway. There were seven children in the Gletna family, six of whom are living. Two of these, Johanna and Marie, came to America; the others are still living in Norway. Mrs. Thomas came to America in 1889, locating at Fargo. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas five children have been born: Theodore, Regina, Louis, Clarence and Arthur.

Politically, Mr. Thomas is a Republican. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

WILLIAM S. LEE

William S. Lee, cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Barnesville and one of the best-known and most energetic bankers in Clay county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born at Little Falls, in Morrison county, on December 2, 1872, son of Samuel Lee, an early merchant at that place and who was one of the first to operate a ferry across the Mississippi river there. During the seventies Samuel Lee moved from Little Falls to Long Prairie and in the latter place started a store, which he continued to operate until his death some years later.

Reared at Long Prairie, to which place his parents had moved when he was but a child, William S. Lee received his schooling there and early became thoroughly familiar with business forms and the mercantile business, through association with his father in the latter's store. After his father's death he continued to operate the store for about two years, at the end of which time he disposed of his business interests there and entered a store at Akeley. Not long afterward he was employed to take charge of a department store for A. L. Cole at Akeley, going thence, after a while, to Eagle Bend, where for five years he was engaged as assistant cashier of the First National Bank of that place. In 1907 Mr. Lee went from Eagle Bend to Elizabeth, where he organized the Merchants State Bank and was

made cashier of the same; remaining there until 1911, in which year he moved to Barnesville and there organized the Citizens State Bank of Barnesville and since May 31, 1911, has been cashier of the same. Mr. Lee not only is an active banker, but he takes an interested part in the general business and civic affairs of his home town, a consistent "booster" of the various enterprises of that thriving city. While living at Long Prairie he served for some time as village recorder, probably the youngest official that village ever had. He also served as a member of the village council there and served in a like capacity during his residence at Eagle Bend.

In 1905, while living at Eagle Bend, William S. Lee was united in marriage to Myrtle A. Fuller, daughter of George F. Fuller, of Moorhead, and to this union two sons have been born, Robert G. and Charles S. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are members of the Baptist church and take an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of their home town, helpful in many ways in promoting agencies having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout. Mr. Lee is a Mason and a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and of the Independent Order of United Workmen, and in the affairs of these several organizations takes a warm interest.

EDMUND L. BROWN.

Edmund L. Brown, a well-known realty dealer at Barnesville, was born in Memphis, Tennessee, March 10, 1872, a son of Judge B. C. Brown, who was born in Pulaski, Tennessee, and Jeanette B. (Booker) Brown, who was born in Memphis, Tennessee. Judge B. C. Brown was attorney for the Southwestern division of the Missouri Pacific Railroad and had an extensive general law practice at the time of his death, which occurred at Little Rock, in 1888. His children are: Benjamin C., who is an artist in Pasadena, California; Annie, who married Isaac B. Gardener, superintendent of the state institute for the deaf and dumb, at Little Rock, Arkansas; and Edmund L., the subject of this sketch. Mrs. Brown, mother of these children, died in 1872.

After the death of his first wife, Judge Brown married Ida Jordan, who is now living in Pasadena, California. The children by the second wife are: Howell J., a designer living in Pasadena, who designed the floats for

the tournament of roses in that city, and Sibley, who also lives in Pasadena, California.

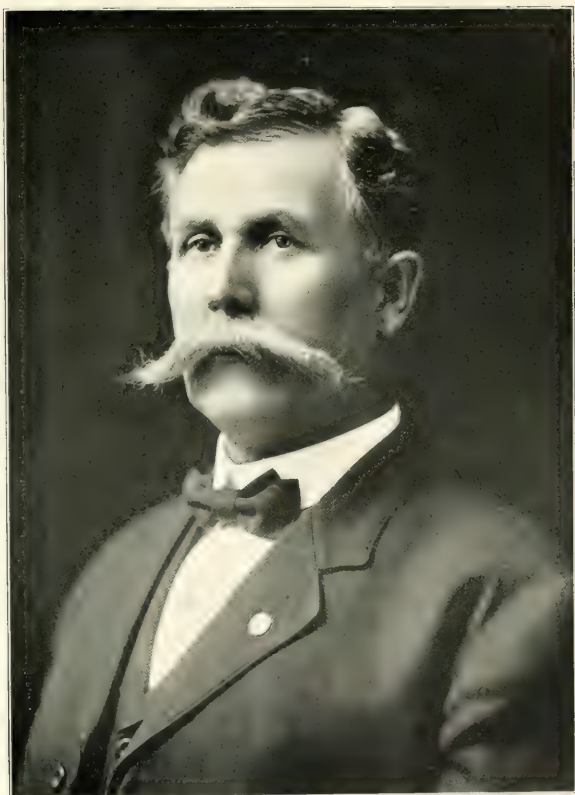
Edmund L. Brown was educated in the public schools of Little Rock, Arkansas. As a young man he served an apprenticeship in the office of the *Arkansas Gazette*, at Little Rock and was for some time reporter and city editor of that paper. In 1894 he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, where he was married to Lucy Huxley, of Martinsville, Indiana. He removed to Martinsville, where he was engaged for nine years in the manufacture of old hickory chairs and rockers. Then he went to Seymour, Indiana, where he had a factory in the same line of business for six years. Then he went to Janesville, Wisconsin, and established a factory for the making of fireless cookers, and continued in that business at that place for four years. In 1913 he came to Minnesota and engaged in the real-estate business at Barnesville, and has been thus engaged in that city ever since.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have one daughter, Frances, who is now a student at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, taking a special course in that institution. Mr. Brown is a Scottish Rite Mason, affiliated with the consistory of the Valley of Indianapolis, and is a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, affiliated with Murat Temple of that order at Indianapolis.

ALBERT J. WRIGHT.

Albert J. Wright, undertaker and funeral director at Moorhead, is a native of Norway as were all his ancestors. He was born in Norway on August 14, 1858, a son of Andrew and Olianna (Sannes) Wright, who were born and spent the greater part of their lifetime in that country. In 1860 the father of our subject came to America and located at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he remained until 1870. In that year he removed to Fill more county, Minnesota, where he is still living. He is a minister in the United Lutheran church. His children are Albert J., Anna W., Marie O., Laura J., Edwin P., William R., Ella T., Samuel J. and Hilma Louise.

Albert J. Wright came with his father to America in his childhood years. He received his education in the schools of LaCrosse, Wisconsin and in the high school at Rushford, Minnesota, from which he was graduated. He taught school for two years and then was engaged in farming for about three years in Mower county, Minnesota. In 1881 he came to Moorhead and engaged in the undertaking business and has continued in



ALBERT J. WRIGHT.

this business ever since, his being the oldest undertaking establishment in Moorhead.

Mr. Wright has been twice married. His first wife was Julia A. Colberg, to whom he was married in 1878. To that union four children were born: Albert Lawrence, Walter Collins, Russell Sherman and Lillian C. The mother of these children died in 1893. Mr. Wright's second wife was Christine Soreng, and by this marriage five children have been born: Edgar Eugene, Alice Marie, Henry Morris, Clarence Bernard and Norman Ferdinand. The family are members of the United Lutheran church. Mr. Wright served for twenty-eight years as superintendent of the Sunday school in this church, and has held other official positions in the same.

Mr. Wright has held several official civic positions. For three or four years he served as city recorder; was chief of the fire department for eight years; in 1912 he was elected county commissioner of Clay county and was re-elected to that office in 1916 and holds that office at present. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Ancient Order of United Workmen, with the Knights of the Maccabees and with the Sons of Norway.

TORGRIM OLSON MORKEN.

Among the successful self-made men of a past generation in Clay county, whose efforts and influence contributed to the general welfare of his locality, the late Torgrim Olson Morken, one of the sterling pioneers of Morken township, occupied a conspicuous place, and his record is well worth setting forth in a volume of the province of the one in hand.

Mr. Morken was born in Norway on October 14, 1846, and there he grew to manhood and attended school. He was a son of Ole Torgrim Morken and wife, natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and continued to reside until 1867, when they immigrated to America, locating in Houston county, Minnesota, where they established their home on a farm, and there the death of the father occurred in September, 1888. The subject of this memorial sketch came to America with his parents at the age of nineteen years. He was the youngest of a family of five children, the others being as follow: Tona, who is married and lives in Houston county; Nels, who is also married and lives in that same county; Salva, deceased, and Ole, deceased.

Torgrim O. Morken devoted his active life to general farming and

stock raising and met with gratifying success. He worked out as a farm hand while living in Houston county, later worked in the Lake Superior copper mines for some time, and also worked several months for the South Minnesota railroad. He came to Clay county in 1875, being one of the pioneers in this section of the state. He took up the first homestead in Morken township, acquiring one hundred and sixty acres in section 30. He broke the wild prairie sod with oxen and continued farming with ox-teams for two years. He finally had his land under an excellent state of cultivation and erected a substantial set of buildings on the same, and there he carried on general farming until his death, ranking among the best farmers of his township. After his death his widow bought one hundred and sixty acres in the same section as the original homestead, and there she still resides. She is a woman of much business ability and has managed the farm well, raising a great deal of grain and large numbers of live stock annually.

Mr. Morken was married in 1878 to Augusta Kassenborg, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1860, and there she spent her girlhood and received her education in the early-day rural schools. She is a daughter of Andrew and Tilda (Olson) Kassenborg, natives of Norway, the father born there on December 1, 1836. They had come to this country with their respective parents in 1850, the families settling in Rock county, Wisconsin. There they were married in 1858 and continued to reside there until 1876, when they came to Minnesota, beginning life in Clay county in typical pioneer fashion. They endured ten years of hardships and privations, but persevered and eventually developed a good farm from the raw prairie and established a comfortable home. The death of Mr. Kassenborg occurred in September, 1913. He held numerous township offices and was an influential man in his community. His widow is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. They had eight children.

To Mr. and Mrs. Morken ten children were born, as follow: Andrew, who owns a farm in Marshall county, Minnesota, which he is operating; Gilbert, who works in a lumber camp at Rose Lake, Idaho; Salve, who owns a farm at Park Rapids, Minnesota, and is actively engaged in farming there; Martin, who is farming near the place of his brother Andrew; John, unmarried, who is a commercial traveler; Obert, who is helping operate the home farm in Morken township; Henry, who also lives at home and works on the farm; Tilda, who works out, and Trina and Sophia, who live at home and assist their mother keeping house.

Mr. Morken was independent in politics. He was a member of the

Norwegian Lutheran church, to which his family also belong. He had been in failing health for a number of years and, in 1883, made a visit to Norway, believing that the change would benefit him. He took an active interest in public affairs, and was the first township clerk of Morken township; was also treasurer of his township for a number of years and served as supervisor and clerk of the school board in his district. He was one of the public-spirited and useful men of his township and the entire locality expressed sincere regret at his death, which occurred on October 7, 1908, he then being sixty-two years of age. He was a man of good character and was highly respected.

OTTO DAHL.

Otto Dahl, of Moorhead, was born in Monroe county, Wisconsin, February 22, 1871, a son of Anton Olean (Opsahl) Dahl, both natives of Norway. Anton Dahl came to America about 1868 and first located in Monroe county, Wisconsin. In 1871 he removed to Trempealeau county, Wisconsin, where he entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres. He improved this land and made his home there until his death, which occurred about 1883. He was the father of six children: Otto, Matilda, Ingo, Malvin, Adolph and Marie.

Otto Dahl was educated in the public schools of Trempealeau county, Wisconsin. His father died while he was still young and the charge of the farm came to him at the age of fifteen years. He continued to work on the farm until he was twenty-five years of age, at which time his brother was old enough to take charge, and he then went to Luther College, at Decorah, Iowa, to take a course of study in that institution. In 1897 he came with his uncle, Jens J. Opsahl, to Minnesota and they opened a store in the line of general merchandise at Felton, in Clay county. They continued the business as partners for two years, at the end of which time Otto Dahl disposed of his interest to his uncle and, in connection with his brother-in-law, T. O. Melby, opened up another general store in Felton. They continued in this business, under the firm name of Dahl & Melby, until 1907. In the meantime the business had grown to such an extent that a branch store had been established at Wilton, in Beltrami county, and in 1907 Mr. Dahl bought his partner's interest in the Felton and Wilton stores, and took in his two brothers as partners in the branch store at Wilton. Mr. Dahl continued business at Felton until December, 1914.

when he removed to Moorhead, where he has since lived. He still owns the business at Felton.

In 1897 Mr. Dahl was married to Mae Dewell, a daughter of Herbert O. Dewell, of Le Roy, Minnesota. To this union four children have been born: Anton, who died at the age of ten years; Doris, Virgil and Oliver Wendell. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are members of the Congregational church at Moorhead.

While living at Felton Mr. Dahl served as a member of the school board and as a member of the village council, of which he was president for two years, and also held other offices of trust. He was actively interested in getting the first church built in Felton. Mr. Dahl has always been interested in music, and while living in Felton organized and was the director of the brass band at that place, the membership being composed of village and country boys.

JOHN OBERG.

No life is more satisfactory than that of the farmer, provided he has the right outlook and the proper attitude toward his work. One of the contented and successful agriculturists of Clay county is John Oberg of Kragnes township, who is also interested in the banking business and is one of the leading citizens of his locality, a splendid example of a self-made man.

Mr. Oberg was born in Norway in 1855, a son of Engebrigt and Maria Oberg, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, never coming to America. They devoted their active lives to farming. The death of the father occurred in 1905 at the advanced age of eighty-six, and the mother reached the unusual age of ninety-two, dying in 1909. To these parents the following children were born: Nels, Andrew, Ola, Mary, Ole and John, three of whom are living in Norway on farms.

John Oberg grew to manhood in Norway, where he attended school there, and, as a boy, helped his father on the farm. He came to America in 1879, first locating in Houston county, Minnesota, but in a short time went to Wisconsin where he spent three years working in a lumber camp. He came to Clay county in 1882 and, during his residence here, of thirty-five years, has seen the country transformed from a wild stretch of plains to one of the foremost farming communities in the state. He has played well his part in this transformation, being a useful citizen from the first.

He owned a store at Kragnes for about six years and in 1891 bought six hundred and eighty-five acres in sections 24 and 26 in Kragnes township, which he still owns. He replaced the old buildings with substantial new ones and made other improvements. In 1900 he bought one-fourth of section 13 and subsequently another one-fourth of the same section, on which holding he also erected new buildings. He is now owner of one thousand and seven acres, and also owns the picturesque Riverside Addition in the city of Moorhead. He has carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale for many years and is regarded as one of the foremost general agriculturists in Clay county. He keeps an excellent grade of live stock, preparing many cattle for the market annually, feeding to them a large portion of the immense amount of grain he raises. His land is all under a high state of scientific cultivation.

Mr. Oberg is deserving of a great deal of credit for what he has accomplished unaided, having started out with very little capital and no influential friends in a new land, where even the language was strange, but he has forged to the front amid discouraging environments and is today one of the representative citizens of western Minnesota. Besides farming, he is interested in a financial way in various enterprises, being a business man of rare foresight and acumen. He is a stockholder in the Norwegian-American Steamship Line, the Olness Lumber Company in Montana, of which he is president, the Houglaam Furniture Company of Moorhead, also the Pederson Mercantile Company of that city, the Cream of Barley Company of Minneapolis, and the Service Machine Company of Chicago. He is also financially interested in numerous banks. He was one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Moorhead and has been vice-president of the same almost all the time it was organized. He is a stockholder in the State Bank at South Haven, Minnesota; the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Steele, North Dakota; the State Bank at Perley, Minnesota; the Equity Bank at Fargo, North Dakota; the Peoples Bank in St. Paul, and the Bankers Trust and Savings Company in Minneapolis.

Mr. Oberg was married in Fargo, North Dakota, in 1890, to Christina Nelsen, a native of Goodhue county, Minnesota. She received a good education and was a woman of many commendable traits of head and heart. Her death occurred on the home farm, in Clay county, in 1903, at the early age of thirty-four years. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Oberg, all of whom are now living at home with the exception of the eldest, who is deceased; they are Ingemann, who died when seventeen years old; Goodman, Maria, Josephine, Nettie and Martin.

Politically, Mr. Oberg is an independent voter. He has never been very active in public affairs, nor a seeker for political leadership, however, he has always stood ready to support all movements having for their object the general upbuilding of his locality, trying at all times to perform the duties of a good citizen. He was a member of the school board in district No. 101 for many years, and he also served as treasurer and supervisor of the town board for many years. Other business interests with which Mr. Oberg has been and is connected are: the Farmers Elevator Company of Moorhead, which he helped to organize; the Moorhead Telephone Company, of which he was treasurer, and the Comstock and Holy Cross Insurance Company, of which he was a director and also an agent. He is a wide reader and has kept well informed along general lines and personally his reputation has ever been above all idle cavil. He is held in high esteem by all who know him.

ANDREAS O. UELAND

Andreas O. Ueland, lawyer and banker, of Halstad, recorder of that village for a number of years, and one of the best-known citizens of Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in Minnesota, a resident of Norman county, since he was eighteen years of age. He was born on October 1, 1871, son of O. M. and Bertha (Egg) Ueland, both natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in that country. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were ten of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Martha, Anna, Ole G., Enoch, Christine, Arne, Olga, Christan and Tine.

Reared on a farm, Andreas O. Ueland completed his local schooling in the schools of his native amt and when eighteen years of age, in 1889, came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, his point of destination being Norman county. He spent the first two years after his arrival here in Shelly township, attending school there during the winters, advancing his study of English, and during the following winter attended Concordia College at Moorhead. He then entered Curtis Business College at Minneapolis and after a course there returned to Norman county and, in 1893, was installed as bookkeeper in the State Bank of Halstad. The following winter he returned to Minneapolis and in the fall of 1894 entered the law department of the University of Minnesota, from which

he was graduated in the spring of 1896. Upon receiving his diploma Mr. Ueland remained employed in a law office at Minneapolis until the summer of 1897, when he returned to Norman county and opened an office for the practice of his profession at Halstad, where he ever since has made his home and where he has continued in practice, one of the best-known members of the bar in this section of the state. For years Mr. Ueland served as recorder of the village of Halstad and since 1907 has been engaged as assistant cashier of the State Bank of Halstad. In his political affiliation he is a Democrat and gives his thoughtful attention to local civic affairs.

In 1897 Andreas O. Ueland was united in marriage to Elsie Ueland, daughter of Nels N. Ueland and wife, of Shelly township, Norman county. She died in 1899 without issue. Mr. Ueland is a member of the local society of the Sons of Norway and of the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias, in the affairs of both of which organizations he takes an active interest.

OSCAR LOVSNES.

Oscar Lovsnes, a well-known hardware merchant of Halstad and former member of the village council there, is a native son of Norman county and has lived there all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Halstad township, August 28, 1878, son of Engel and Mollie (Serum) Lovsnes, natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1866 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Fillmore county. There they remained until about 1872, when they came up into this part of the state and homesteaded a farm in what later came to be organized as Halstad township, Norman county, and there spent the rest of their lives, substantial and influential pioneers. Engel Lovsnes and his wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being: Camella, Syvert, Isabel, Ella, Clara, Marie and Emma, all of whom are living save Ella, who died when about fifteen years of age, and Clara, who died at the age of twelve years. Mr. and Mrs. Lovsnes were earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, active workers in the same, and their children were reared in the faith of that denomination.

Reared on the paternal farm in Halstad township, Oscar Lovsnes received his early training in the schools of that township and at the village school at Halstad and supplemented the same by a course in the Metro-

politan Business College at Minneapolis. In 1902 he began his mercantile career as a clerk in the hardware store of the Solerud Brothers at Halstad, and four years later, in 1906, bought a hardware store at Ada, remaining in business there for four years. At the end of that period, in 1910, he returned to Halstad, bought an interest in the store of his former employers, Solerud Brothers, and has ever since been thus connected with that long-established and progressive firm. Mr. Lovsnes gives proper attention to local civic affairs and has served for one term as a member of the Halstad village council. He is affiliated with the local lodge of the Knights of Pythias and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that order.

In 1905 Oscar Lovsnes was united in marriage to Minnie Beise, daughter of August Beise and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Russell, Wallace and Eleanor. Mr. and Mrs. Lovsnes have a very pleasant home at Halstad and take a proper part in the general social activities of the village.

DAVID ASKEGAARD.

A well-known citizen of the southwestern part of Clay county is David Askegaard, merchant, banker, lumber and elevator man of Comstock, where he owned a farm before the village was started. He was born in Norway, June 19, 1853, and is a son of David and Johanna Askegaard, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and continued to reside until 1872, when they immigrated with their family to the United States, locating in Cass county, North Dakota, where the father entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Pleasant township, which he developed into a farm and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. Their family consisted of the following children: Corrinne, Ingeborg, Clara, Ole, David, John, Otto, Peter, Johannes and Mary.

The junior David Askegaard grew to manhood in Norway and there he attended the public schools. He was nineteen years old when he came with the rest of the family to America. As a young man he took up a homestead of eighty acres in Pleasant township, Cass county, North Dakota, which he developed into a farm through hard work and perseverance, remaining there until 1886, when he removed to Holy Cross township, Clay county, Minnesota, and bought the land on which the village of Comstock now stands. Here he improved another farm and established the



MR. AND MRS. DAVID ASKEGAARD.

family home. In 1890 he moved to Comstock and started a general store in partnership with a Mr. Halland under the firm name of Halland & Askegaard, and he has been successfully engaged in the mercantile business ever since, enjoying a large and constantly growing trade. He carries an extensive general stock of goods. In 1909 he assisted in organizing the Comstock State Bank and was elected vice-president of the same. He is now president of the bank. The rapid growth of this sound and popular institution has been due very largely to his able management and local prestige. In 1891 Mr. Askegaard established the Askegaard elevator at Comstock and he also manages a lumber yard in Comstock. Both have been very successful and are growing industries. In fact, whatever Mr. Askegaard turns his attention to results in gratifying financial returns, for he is a man of rare foresight and soundness of judgment and is one of the strong financial men of Clay county, as well as one of the most influential men of affairs in this locality. From 1892 to 1913 he was vice-president of the First National Bank of Moorhead. In addition to the five and a half sections of fine land Mr. Askegaard owns in his home township, he is the owner of three quarter sections in another township in Clay county, a section in Montana and a quarter section in North Dakota.

In 1876 David Askegaard was united in marriage to Minnie Dunhom, who was born in Norway, daughter of Eric Dunhom and wife, who spent all their lives in their native land. Mrs. Askegaard and her three sisters came to the United States in 1870 and after a year spent in Fillmore county, this state, came up into this part of the state and was living in Otter Tail county at the time of her marriage. To that union were born ten children, of whom four are deceased, Milla, Arthur, Delia and Henry, those living being Milla (second), Edwin, Eugene, Arthur (second), Corrinne and Delia (second). In July, 1917, Arthur Askegaard enlisted for service in the regimental band of the Washington Coast Artillery and is now serving with that command. The mother of these children died in 1890 and Mr. Askegaard later married Christine Larson, who was born in Sweden, daughter of Andrew and Hannah (Nelson) Larson, who came to the United States with their family in 1880 and located at Moorhead. Mr. Larson became the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the vicinity of that city, but later moved to a farm near the home of his daughter, Mrs. Askegaard, and there died in 1915. His widow now makes her home with Mrs. Askegaard. Andrew Larson and his wife were the parents of two children, Mrs. Askegaard having a brother. To David and Christine (Larson)

Askegaard six children have been born, namely: Aileen (deceased), an infant (deceased), Tekla (deceased), Henry, Tekla (second) and Rolfe.

Politically, Mr. Askegaard is a Republican, and from 1892 to 1896 he served as county commissioner. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has always borne an unblemished reputation as a man and citizen and is one of the highly esteemed men of Clay county, a plain, practical, unassuming gentleman who takes an active interest in whatever pertains to the development of his town and county.

GILL HOWARD BARKER RICHARDS.

One of the enterprising young farmers of the western part of Clay county is Gill Howard Barker Richards, a member of a well-known and highly-respected family in the vicinity of Kragnes, where he was born on the old home farm, August 11, 1886. He is a son of Robert and Ellen (Giffin) Richards. The mother, who was born in Belfast, Ireland, in August, 1844, came to America in early life, and her death occurred here in 1913. Robert Richards was born in Cornwall, England, in December, 1844, and there he grew to manhood and attended the common schools. He immigrated to America in 1864, first locating at Calumet, Michigan, where he worked in the copper mines for some time as foreman. He came to Clay county, Minnesota, in 1882, locating on a farm in Kragnes township, and there engaged successfully in general farming and stock raising until his death in February, 1912, which, however, occurred in a hospital in Fargo, North Dakota. His family consisted of seven children, as follow: John, who died in 1903; Tom, unmarried, who was born in September, 1871, and has remained on the home place, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, which he owns, also operating another farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which belongs to his sister, Margaret, farming in all three hundred and twenty acres; Max, who was born in April, 1873, and is married, living in Fargo, North Dakota; Alexandria, born in May, 1874, and living on a farm in section 17, Kragnes township; Margaret, who is operating a rooming house in Moorhead, and also owns a good farm in Kragnes township; Will, who is married, having three children, and is farming on the homestead in section 17, Kragnes township; Gill H. B., of this sketch, the youngest of the family.

Gill H. B. Richards grew to manhood on the home farm in Clay county.

where he worked hard when a boy. He received his education in the district schools of his native community. When a young man he began for himself on a farm, belonging to his brother John, but now owns an excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 17, Moland township, on which he has made all improvements. He moved to this place in 1914, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was married in 1906 to Carrie Rasmussen, who was born in 1888, at Blooming Prairie, Minnesota. To their union six children have been born, namely: Clara Belle, Harold, Arnold, Robert, Alfred and Violet.

Robert Richards, father of the subject of this sketch, was a prominent man in his township for many years. He held a number of county offices, having served seven years as county commissioner, of which board he was chairman for some time.

HALVOR RASMUSSEN.

Halvor Rasmusson, former clerk of the district court of this district, former recorder of the city of Moorhead, one of the incorporators and first treasurer of Concordia College and for many years a well-known real-estate dealer and banker, now living retired in the city of Moorhead, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty years of age and of Moorhead since 1878, having come up here into the Red River valley from Houston, this state, of which city he was the first mayor. Mr. Rasmusson is one of the numerous band of Telemarkens who found Minnesota so hospitable a place of abode in the sixties and seventies of the past century and has never regretted the decision which prompted him to locate in this state. He was born in the parish of Kritseid, in the district of Telemarken, Norway, September 20, 1841, a son of Rasmus and Anna (Halvorson) Gunderson, who, with the other members of their family, followed their son, the subject of this sketch, to America in 1866 and settled in Houston county, this state. There Mrs. Gunderson, who was born on November 10, 1817, died on March 2, 1875. Rasmus Gunderson remained in Houston county, engaged in farming, for fifteen years, at the end of which time he sold his farm there and moved to La Crosse, Wisconsin, where he spent the rest of his life, retired, his death occurring there on August 8, 1903. He was born on June 6, 1819. Rasmus Gunderson and wife were the parents of six children, of whom

the subject of this sketch was the first born, the others being as follow: Mrs. Signe Rice, who died at her home in Clay county in 1912; Anna, wife of Doctor Hoegh, of Minneapolis; Gunder, who is married and is engaged in farming in Roseau county, this state; Mrs. Christie Hals, a widow, of Minneapolis, and Hans, who is engaged in farming in Montana.

Halvor Rasmusson grew to manhood on the paternal farm in Tellemarken and in the spring of 1861 was married, he and his bride straightway thereafter setting sail for the country of promise across the sea. They landed at the port of Quebec on June 8, 1861, after a voyage of eight weeks, during which twenty-four persons died on board the vessel on which they had taken passage. From Quebec Mr. Rasmusson and his bride proceeded to Chicago and after a stay of some time in that city went to Madison, Wisconsin, where they remained until their not overly large stock of funds was exhausted, after which they walked seventy miles to the farm home of Mr. Rasmusson's uncle, in the vicinity of Kilborn City, Wisconsin, where they found a cordial welcome. Mr. Rasmusson found employment in a store at Kilborn City and there remained thus engaged until 1864, when he came to Minnesota and was for a year thereafter engaged in farm labor in Fillmore county. He then secured a position in a store at Winona and remained there until 1866, in which year he moved to Houston, where he became engaged as grain buyer for the Bergendahl elevator, a position which he held for twelve years, or until his removal to Moorhead in 1878. During the time of his residence in Houston Mr. Rasmusson took an active part in the commercial and civic affairs of that place and was elected first mayor of the town upon its incorporation as a city. He also served as a member of the school board of that city and in other ways did his part toward promoting the best interests of the place.

Upon locating at Moorhead in the spring of 1878 Mr. Rasmusson became engaged in the hotel business, but after a year's experience in that line abandoned that form of endeavor and became engaged in the real-estate business, in the office of Comstock & White. In 1883 he was elected recorder of the city of Moorhead and was re-elected to that office in the spring of 1884, also clerk of the municipal court. In the fall of 1884 Mr. Rasmusson was elected clerk of the district court and by successive re-elections was retained in that important office for a period of sixteen years, during much of which time he also served as a member of the board of education and was clerk and treasurer of the board. Mr. Rasmusson has ever given his earnest attention to the promotion of the educational interests of his adopted state and when the movement which culminated in the establish-

ment of Concordia College at Moorhead in 1891 was under way he became one of the incorporators of that institution and was elected first treasurer of the same. In the meantime Mr. Rasmusson had continued his activities in the real-estate line and for years was regarded as one of the best judges of realty in the Red River valley, carrying on quite extensive operations in that line both at Moorhead and at Winnipeg. In 1903 he became one of the incorporators of the First State Bank of Moorhead. Of late years, however, he has been living practically retired from business cares, "taking things easy" in his declining years.

Mr. Rasmusson has been twice married. On March 24, 1861, in his native Norway, just a few days before he and his bride took their departure for this country, he was united in marriage to Liv Johnson, who also was born in Norway, June 24, 1842, and whose parents died when she was an infant. To that union were born six children, namely: John, who is engaged in the hardware business at Crookston, this state; Anna, wife of O. D. Dahl, of Fargo; Julia, who died at Moorhead in August, 1915; Rudolph, who is living at Minneapolis; Dr. Frederick Rasmusson, of Oliver county, North Dakota, and Nora, wife of Marvin Fullerton, of Fargo. The mother of these children died in 1909 and in 1911, during a visit back to his old home in Norway. Mr. Rasmusson was married in that country to Marie Christianson, who was born in Norway on December 18, 1887. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmusson have a very pleasant home at Moorhead and Mr. Rasmusson is also the owner of some valuable business houses on Front street.

S. O. SOLUM.

S. O. Solum, cashier of the First National Bank of Barnesville, president of the mercantile firm of Norby, Solum & Company (incorporated), city treasurer of Barnesville and for years actively identified with the commercial and other interests of that city, one of the best-known bankers and merchants in this section, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, a resident of Clay county since he was three years of age, and may thus very properly be accounted as one of the real "old settlers" of this part of the Red River country. He was born on a pioneer farm in Fillmore county on June 18, 1869, son of Ole H. and Karie (Stadum) Solum, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who became pioneers of Clay county in 1872 and here spent their last days.

Ole H. Solum was born and reared in Norway, as was his wife. In 1868, with the two children, Hans and Andrew, born to them in their native land, they came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Fillmore county, where they remained for four years. At the end of that time, in 1872, they came up into the Red River valley with their family, driving through with a covered wagon and a team of oxen, and located in Clay county, which had just been erected into a civic unit that year. Upon his arrival here, Ole H. Solum homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Tansem township and there established his home. At that time, Indians still were numerous hereabout and there was not another settler between the Solum place and Glyndon. During the first summer of his residence here, Mr. Solum eked out his slender means of subsistence by working as a freighter to Ft. Abercrombie. Though he started with practically nothing save his homestead right, he was a good farmer and an excellent manager and presently began to see his way clear to the development of a fine piece of farm property. As he prospered in his affairs, he gradually added to his holdings until he became the owner of an excellent farm of three hundred and forty acres. He and his wife were earnest workers in the church and were among the organizers of the First North Emanuel church. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being: Hans, Andrew, Lars (who died at the age of eleven years), Martin, Christine (who died at the age of fourteen), and Peter.

As noted above, S. O. Solum was but three years of age when his parents settled in Clay county and he grew up on the homestead farm in Tansem township, thoroughly familiar with pioneer conditions thereabout. Upon completing the course in the local schools, he entered Willmar Seminary and was in attendance at that institution for the better part of two terms, after which, in 1890, then being twenty-one years of age, he began working in a lumber yard at Barnesville. In 1892 he accepted the position as bookkeeper in the Barnesville State Bank, and not long after that bank was rechartered as the First National Bank of Barnes in 1895 he was made assistant cashier of the same and, in 1910, was elected cashier, which position he still occupies, one of the best-known bankers in this part of the state. In addition to his banking interests Mr. Solum has other business interests in Barnesville and is the president of the mercantile firm of Norby, Solum & Company (incorporated). For the past sixteen years and more, he has served as treasurer of the city of Barnesville and has in other ways given of his time and his energies to the public service.

In the year 1893 S. O. Solum was united in marriage to Christine Austin, daughter of John and Bertha Austin, of Crawford county, Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Solum are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in the general social and cultural activities of their home community.

CHARLES FOSSAY.

There is no more persevering tiller of the soil in Kragnes township, Clay county, than Charles Fossay, who was born in Norway in 1853. He is a son of Ole E. and Olia F. Fossay, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until immigrating to America in 1866, locating in Mitchell county, Iowa, where the father bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, for which he paid five dollars an acre. The same land is now worth one hundred and seventy-five dollars an acre. Here they engaged in farming, developing raw land by hard work. The father's death occurred there in 1907 at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. The mother died some three years later at the age of eighty-four. To these parents the following children were born: Eberhart, who was killed by a bull in 1912 in North Dakota; Anton, who died in Mitchell county, Iowa; Charles, the subject of this sketch; Bertha, who is married and lives in Mitchell county, Iowa; Emma, who is married and makes her home in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada; Minnie, who died near Davenport, North Dakota; Oliva, who was married and who died in Foster county, North Dakota, in 1915; Oliver, who lives in McHenry county, North Dakota, and Mary, who died in Cass county, that state.

Charles Fossay was thirteen years old when his parents brought him to America. He received a common-school education and grew to manhood on the farm. Like all sons of pioneers he worked hard when a boy, helping his father develop the home farm. In 1877 he went to Fargo, North Dakota, and there operated a dray line for twelve years with very gratifying results. He then, in 1889, came to Clay county and bought his present farm in Kragnes township. The farm originally consisted of four hundred acres, but Mr. Fossay later sold half of it and now owns the two hundred acres, which lie in sections 30 and 31. He made all the improvements on this land, including the erection of a modern and substantial set

of buildings. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, and makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle.

On September 6, 1886, at Fargo, Mr. Fossay was married to Anna Danielson, who was born in Sweden in 1850. She spent her girlhood in her native land and there attended school, coming to America alone when eighteen years old, locating at Fargo, North Dakota, where she remained until her marriage. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fossay, namely: Charles, who is married and lives in the province of Manitoba, Canada; Edward, who makes his home with Charles in Canada, and Obert, Alice and Mabel, at home.

Politically, Mr. Fossay is an "Independent". He served as treasurer of the school board in his district for many years and was also a member of the township board for many years. He is a member of the Congregational church, in which he is a deacon, and is active in church affairs.

HENNING O. KRABBENHOFT.

Henning O. Krabbenhoft, one of Clay county's most successful farmers and substantial landowners, proprietor of a section and a half of fine land in the Sabin neighborhood of Elmwood township, former assessor of that township, former chairman of the board of supervisors of the same and in other ways actively identified with the affairs of that community since pioneer days, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Clay county since he was eighteen years of age, having come here with his parents, who became the first permanent white settlers of what later became organized as Elmwood township. He was born in Schleswig-Holstein on May 27, 1850, son of W. E. and Katherine (Jess) Krabbenhoft, natives of that same province of Prussia, who came to the United States with their family in 1874 and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling on a homestead tract in what later came to be organized as Elmwood township, in Clay county, and there spent the remainder of their lives, useful and influential pioneers of that community, their original homestead tract there now being the place of residence of the subject of this sketch.

It was in 1872 that the Krabbenhoft tract in Elmwood was entered, W. C. Krabbenhoft, eldest son of W. E. Krabbenhoft having come here in that year and made his claim to the same, putting up a homestead shanty and preparing the way for the coming of his parents and the other members



TENNING O. KRAHENHOFF AND FAMILY.

of the family, who arrived in 1874, and established their home there, the first permanent settlers in that section of the county. W. F. Krabbenhoft bought the claim from his son and completed the development of the same, later increasing his land holdings to two hundred and thirty acres, which in 1882 he sold to his son Henning, who has continued to reside there since his coming in 1874, one of the real "old-timers" now living in Clay county. On that pioneer farm W. F. Krabbenhoft and his wife spent their last days. They were members of the Lutheran church and took an active part in the organization of a congregation of their faith in the neighborhood of their home in the early days. They were the parents of twelve children, six of whom died in the old country, the other six coming with them to this country, these latter being as follow: Wolf C., now deceased, who was the first of the family to come to this country, as noted above; Christ, also now deceased; Henning O., the immediate subject of this biographical sketch; Katherine, wife of Chris Peohls; Anna, wife of Chris Wright, and Wilhelmina, now deceased, who was the wife of Henry Schroeder.

As noted above Henning O. Krabbenhoft was eighteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents and the other members of the family and settled in Clay county. He had received his schooling in his native land and upon coming here he at once took an active hand in the difficult labors of improving and developing the homestead place in Elmwood township. He married in the fall of 1881 and the next year bought the home place from his father, who was prepared to retire at that time, and there established his permanent home. Since taking possession of that place he has erected excellent buildings and for years has had one of the best-equipped farm plants in Clay county. As he prospered in his farming operations, Mr. Krabbenhoft gradually added to his land holdings until he became the owner of two and three-quarter sections of land, but has since sold a section and a quarter, retaining a section and a half, which he has brought under a high state of cultivation. About 1892 Mr. Krabbenhoft began to recognize the peculiar adaptability of the soil of the Red river valley to the raising of potatoes and in that year made his first really extensive plant of potatoes. Since then he has made much of potato crops and has on his place one of the largest private potato warehouses in this part of the state. He has also given considerable attention to the raising of pure-bred live stock and has done very well in his operations. From the beginning of his residence here Mr. Krabbenhoft has taken a good citizen's interest in local political affairs and at one time and another has held most of the offices within the gift of the people of his home township.

including that of chairman of the board of township supervisors and assessor. Of late years, however, he has practically retired from politics. Among the other interests to which he gives his earnest attention is the Northwestern Hospital at Moorhead, in the affairs of which he has been deeply interested since the day of its establishment.

On November 29, 1881, Henning O. Krabbenhoft was united in marriage to Margaret Kuel, also a native of Holstein, who came to this country in that same year. Some years later, in 1890, her parents, Fred and Magdalena (Naeve) Kuehl, also came to this country and their last days were spent in Elmwood township. Mr. and Mrs. Krabbenhoft have thirteen children, Katherine, August, Herbert, Anna, Alfred, Theodore, Walter, John, Adolph, Christian, Siegfried, Lizzie and Elsie, all of whom are living in this community, save John, who is now a resident of Ambrose, North Dakota. There are also four children deceased, Herman, Rudolph, Heinrich and Dora. The Krabbenhofs have a very pleasant home and have ever taken a proper part in the general social activities of the community, helpful in many ways in advancing movements having to do with the betterment of conditions hereabout. As one of the real pioneers of Clay county, Mr. Krabbenhoft has a wonderful fund of information regarding the conditions in the early days of the settlement of this part of the state and some of his tales of pioneer days are interesting indeed.

WILLIAM GILBERY.

William Gilbery, a well-known farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Devonshire, England, on May 1, 1855. He is a son of U. Hugh and Dina (Newcombs) Gilbery, both natives of England, where they grew up, married and established their home. In 1874 they immigrated to Canada, where they resided until 1876, when they moved to Wisconsin and spent the rest of their lives in Grant county, that state, each reaching an advanced age, the father dying in 1910 at the age of eighty-two, and the mother, in 1914, at the age of eighty-three. Three children were born to these parents, namely: William, the subject of this sketch; Richard, deceased; and Charles, who lives on a farm in Wisconsin, is married and owns his own place.

William Gilbery grew to manhood in England and there attended the public schools. He immigrated to Canada in the spring of 1873 and lived

there three years, at the end of which time, in 1876, he moved to Hancock, Houghton county, Michigan, where he lived three years with an uncle. In the fall of 1878 he came to Minnesota and worked at Crookston that winter. His uncle, with whom he lived in Michigan, came here in 1879 and bought two hundred and twenty acres in Oak Port township, Clay county, and this land was farmed by the subject of this sketch for three years. He continued to work on various farms in this county and finally bought land in Oak Port township for another uncle and farmed the place for seven years. In the spring of 1890 he purchased his present farm in section 20 of Kragnes township, on which he has made all improvements, including an excellent group of buildings. He has three hundred and twenty acres of well-kept and productive land, which is well adapted to potato growing and he planted thirty-five acres of the white tubers in 1917. He also raises a great deal of wheat and has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

On September 9, 1879, Mr. Gilbery was married to Clara Mildén, who was born in Houghton county, Michigan, September 23, 1859. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Westley) Mildén, both natives of Devonshire, England, where they grew up, married and made their home until coming to America over sixty years ago, or about the year 1856. They located at Hancock, Michigan, being pioneers of that section of the Wolverine state. Mr. Mildén was a carpenter by trade and he helped build the first house in the present town of Hancock. His death occurred in 1907, at the age of seventy-three years. He was twice married, his first wife, mother of the wife of the subject of this sketch, dying in 1882, at the age of fifty-one years. He was the father of four children by his first wife and eight by his second wife.

To William Gilbery and wife eight children have been born, namely: Anna, who is married and lives on a farm in Kragnes township; Charles, who is married and lives on a farm in the same township; William, who is married and lives at Hitterdal, in Clay county; Ida, who is married and lives on a farm in North Dakota, and George, Minnie, Robert and Raymond, at home.

Mr. Gilbery is a Republican and has served as a director on the local school board for thirteen years. He was also a member of the township board for some time and was for a number of years a member of the board of supervisors of Kragnes township, a director and chairman of the board for some time. He has been active in the affairs of his locality since coming to Clay county, and has done much to develop the varied interests of that community.

ANDREW BYE.

Andrew Bye, former member of the village council at Halstad and manager of the local plant of the Northwestern Elevator Company at that place, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Houston county, November 25, 1873, a son of Peter O. and Bergit (Hefte) Bye, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, who are now living in Grand Forks county, North Dakota, where they have resided for years, among the substantial pioneer residents of that section.

Peter O. Bye was born in 1844 and was ten years of age when he came to this country with his parents, in 1854, the family settling in Houston county, this state, among the pioneers of that section of the state, and there he grew to manhood. In that county he married Bergit Hefte, who had come to Minnesota with her parents from Norway in the days of her girlhood, and after his marriage remained in that county until 1877, when he went pioneering over into North Dakota and settled in the township of Bentru, Grand Forks county, where he and his wife still make their home and where they are very comfortably situated. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There are six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Nellie, Inga, Olaus, Anton and Theodore.

Andrew Bye was four years of age when his parents moved from Minnesota to North Dakota and he was reared on a pioneer homestead farm in Grand Forks county, in the latter state, receiving his schooling in the district school in the neighborhood of his home. As a young man he started farming on his own account in Grand Forks county and was thus engaged until he was twenty-five years of age, when he engaged in the grain business, buying grain at Mapes, North Dakota. Six months later he was made buyer for the Minneapolis & Northern Elevator Company at Felton, in Clay county, this state, and remained there, agent for that company, for nine years, or until 1909, when he transferred his services to the Northwestern Elevator Company and was made agent and buyer for that company at Halstad, where he ever since has made his home and where he has quite successfully managed the Northwestern elevator, becoming one of the best-known grain men in this part of the state. Since becoming a resident of Halstad Mr. Bye has taken an active interest in local civic affairs, has served for two or three terms as a member of the village council and also served for two or three terms as village assessor.

On December 30, 1901, Andrew Bye was united in marriage to Eliza Moe, a daughter of E. P. Moe, of Caledonia, North Dakota, and to this union one child has been born, Alpha Eugene, born at Felton on February 11, 1903. The Byes have a very pleasant home at Halstad and take a proper part in the general social activities of the community. Mr. Bye is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes an active interest in the affairs of the same.

JOHN SPENNINGSBY.

John Spenningsby, proprietor of a harness shop at Ada and formerly a farmer in Hegne township, Norman county, was born in the kingdom of Norway on September 16, 1877, and was about six years of age when his parents, Knut and Julia (Braaten) Spenningsby, also natives of Norway, came to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, where they ever since have made their home.

It was in 1883 that Knut Spenningsby and his family came to Minnesota, their destination being Ada. Upon their arrival here Mr. Spenningsby located on a farm in Halstad township, but later bought a homesteader's right to a tract in Hegne township and there established his home, remaining there and improving the same until 1903, when he retired from the farm and moved to Ada, where he and his wife are now living. They are members of Trinity Lutheran church (of the Hauges synod) at Ada and their children were reared in that faith. There are four of these children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Emil, Lewis and Inga.

As noted above, John Spenningsby was but a child when his parents settled in Norman county and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Hegne township, remaining there, a valued assistant to his father in the development and improvement of the same, until the time of his parents' removal to Ada in 1903, when he also left the farm and located in Ada. In 1907 he started a harness shop in that city and has built up a prosperous business in that line.

In June, 1915, John Spenningsby was united in marriage to Mrs. Serena Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Spenningsby are members of Trinity Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work and other local good works.

JAMES A. SAUER.

One of the genuine pioneers of Clay county, who was willing to take the hardships of the early days that he might acquire the soil and the home that was sure to rise in due course of time, was James A. Sauer, who is one of the leading general farmers of Spring Prairie township.

Mr. Sauer was born in Norway, October 11, 1864. He is a son of Andrew and Rachael (Sauer) Sauer, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1870, when they brought their family to America, locating in Humboldt county, Iowa, where the father engaged in general farming until the spring of 1881, when he moved to Minnesota, taking up a homestead in section 26, Spring Prairie township, Clay county. His wife had died in Iowa. He and his children developed a good farm here on which he continued to reside until 1892, when he moved to Cromwell township, and there spent the rest of his life, dying in December, 1916, having been retired for many years from active labors, leaving the real work of the farm to his son, Ole Sauer. He was a true pioneer and had been very successful as a farmer and stock raiser. His family consisted of ten children, Ambrose, A. K., Tina, Rachael, Belle, James A., Andrew, John, Samuel and Ole, all of whom are living.

James A. Sauer was six years old when his parents brought him from Norway to this country and he grew to manhood and attended the public schools in Humboldt county, Iowa. He came to Minnesota with his father in 1881 and started out for himself, taking up a homestead, the northwest quarter of section 21 of Spring Prairie township in Clay county. About three years later he secured the southwest quarter of the same section, as a tree claim, and has made his home on the latter quarter ever since. He now owns a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres, including the northwest quarter of section 20, Spring Prairie township, although he has sold his original homestead. He made extensive improvements on his land, erecting a large, comfortable residence and substantial outbuildings, and put out a fine grove, raising many of the trees from the seed. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, making all by his own efforts.

In 1887 Mr. Sauer was married to Jennie Torgeson, a native of Norway, where her parents lived and died, and from which country she came to America when young. To her union with Mr. Sauer two children were born, namely: Andrew and Gena. Mr. Sauer married a second time, No-

vember 20, 1897, his last wife being Minnie Torkildson, a daughter of Tonnes Torkildson, a native of Norway and an early settler of Riverton township, Clay county. Tonnes Torkildson married Trene Larson, also a native of Norway, and there they made their home until immigrating to America in the spring of 1883. In the fall of that year he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Riverton township, Clay county, improving the place and building a good home, and there he spent the rest of his life, dying in April, 1894. His widow still lives on the homestead, which now contains two hundred and forty acres, Mr. Torkildson having added eighty acres more to his original farm. His family consisted of six children, Ole, Gust, Abin, Louise, Albert (deceased) and Lena. To Mr. Sauer and his second wife eight children have been born, Theodore, Gilbert, James, Rudolph, Mabel, Esther, Arthur and Alfred.

Politically, Mr. Sauer is independent. He circulated personally the petition to organize Spring Prairie township, and also the petition for the organization of the first school district, which then included the entire township and was appointed one of the first supervisors by the county board. He was later a member of the township board and is now chairman of the school board.

OLE G. MIDGARDEN.

Ole G. Midgarden, of Moland township, is one of Clay county's farmers who seems to have the right idea about agricultural matters, and although he does not farm on so large a scale as some, he does his work in a scientific way and is making a comfortable living. Mr. Midgarden was born in Norway, September 2, 1849, a son of Gunder and Thorberg G. (Spokali) Midgarden, natives of Norway, where they spent their lives on a farm. They were parents of seventeen children, ten of whom grew to maturity, namely: Tolef, deceased; John; Tore, deceased; Ole G., of this sketch; Howard and Gunder, both living; Signe, who lives in Norway; Ingeborg, Halvor and Johanna. These children all came to America but Signe.

Ole G. Midgarden spent his boyhood in Norway where he attended the common schools for a while, and also went to school a short time in America, whither he came in 1866, reaching Houston county, Minnesota, in June of that year, being a pioneer in that section of the state. He remained there until 1870 and then, with other settlers, came to Clay county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Moland town-

ship and lived there until 1874, when he sold out and went back to Norway, remaining in his native land five years. At the end of that period he returned to America and spent a few months in Wisconsin, then came on to Clay county, Minnesota, and rented land for about six years, after which time he bought one hundred and sixty acres in Moland township, where he has since made his home, making all the present improvements, including the erection of the buildings. He carries on general and mixed farming.

Mr. Midgarden was married in 1882 to Jorand Thortvedt, who was born in Norway, from which country she came to Houston county, Minnesota. When young, and when her people moved from that county to Clay county, she walked most of the way, helping drive the sheep and cattle. Three children, all living, were born to Mr. and Mrs. Midgarden, namely: Thorberg Gundella, Theekla Linda Josephine and Gottfred Otto Leander.

Politically, Mr. Midgarden is a Republican. He has been treasurer of school district No. 6 nearly all the time since he has lived in the district, with the exception of the period of his absence in Norway. He is the treasurer at this writing. He was the third man to hold this office. He belongs to the Lutheran church.

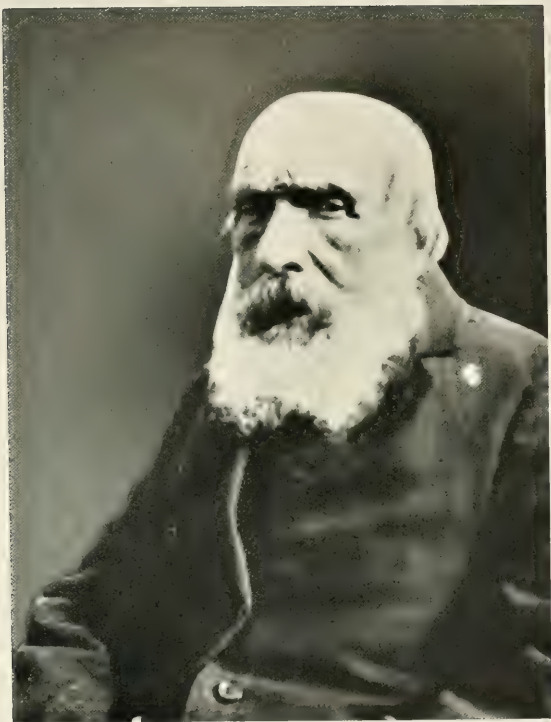
WILLIAM THOMPSON.

William Thompson, one of the real pioneers of Clay county, first clerk of Elkton township, a position he held for many years, or until his removal across the line into Elmwood township, and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres lying in Elmwood and Elkton townships, his home now being in the former township, is a native of Scotland, but has been a resident of this country since 1870 and of this part of Minnesota since 1878, and has therefore been a witness to and a participant in the development of this region since pioneer days. He was born in the city of Montrose, an important seaport town in Forfarshire, thirty-four miles southwest of Aberdeen, March 14, 1842, son of Dougal and Mary (Shand) Thompson, also natives of Scotland, the latter of whom spent her last days in her native land; the former later coming to this country, his last days being spent in Minnesota. Of the three children born to his parents, the subject of this sketch is the only survivor, his brother John having died at the age of fourteen years, and his sister Mary, at the age of ten months.

Dougal Thompson was a laborer in Montrose and was not in extra good



MRS. ANN THOMPSON.



WILLIAM THOMPSON.

circumstances financially, hence his son William was given small opportunities for acquiring much more than the rudiments of an education in his native land, never attending school at all until he came to this country long after he was grown. Before he was eight years of age William Thompson was set to work in a factory and worked there until he was sixteen years of age, when he learned the stone-cutter's trade, including general masonry, and the early years of his manhood were spent in that form of labor. He married in 1866 and four years later, in 1870, determining that there was small opportunity for making much headway toward financial independence in his native land, decided to come to the United States. He left his wife behind until such time as he could see his way clear to the making of a home in this country, and after his arrival in New York City began working there at his trade. Two years later he was joined by his wife and his father and about six years after their arrival left there and came out to Minnesota with a view to finding a home on the free lands of the Northwest. At Idaborn, this state, his father died and he remained there a short time before proceeding on to this part of the state. It was there that, together with a party of other Scotchmen, he became interested in the homestead proposition here in the Red River valley and about 1878 he and his companions drove up here seeking a location. One of the party had been here for a short time previously and had left a few old tires on the open prairie, which was the landmark toward which the party journeyed. They arrived there about dark and their first night on the prairie was spent under the friendly shelter of the stars. Mr. Thompson and his three companions staked out four quarter sections and drew lots for the respective possession of the same. When the survey later was made and the township lines run, it was found that Mr. Thompson's claim was just on the west edge of Elkton township. Without delay he erected a temporary house there and entered upon the task of developing and improving the place. When settlers gradually began to fill up the region round about and Elkton township came to be organized Mr. Thompson was elected first clerk of the township and by successive elections was retained in that position until his removal in 1896 across the line into Elmwood township, he meanwhile having acquired additional land to the west of his homestead place and built a new and up-to-date set of buildings on the same. Upon his removal from Elkton township a public township meeting was called in Elkton township and appreciative resolutions were adopted expressing the sincere appreciation of the people of that township for the valuable services which Mr.

Thompson had so long rendered as clerk, and a handsomely printed copy of the same was presented to him, a testimonial which, it is needless to say, is valued very highly by him. Mr. Thompson now has a well-improved farm of four hundred acres and has never regretted the decision that prompted him to come up into the Red River country back in the days of the beginning of the settlement here.

Mr. Thompson's wife died at her new home in Elmwood township in 1899. She also was born in Scotland, and before her marriage was Ann Lamb. Her father, also a native of Scotland, spent all his days in his native land, but the mother came to America in 1872 and died at the home which she homesteaded in Elkton township. To Mr. and Mrs. Thompson two children were born, Mary, who died in 1902, and John Dougal, who died in 1901. Mr. Thompson is a member of the Presbyterian church and was one of the organizers of the local congregation of that church back in the early days. During the activities of the Good Templar societies many years ago, he was an active Good Templar and his influence in the community in which he has resided from the very beginning of its settlement has ever been exerted in behalf of better conditions.

WRIGHT WORKS.

It will always be a mark of distinction to have served the Union during the great Civil War. The old soldier will receive attention no matter where he goes, if he will but make himself known, and when he passes away friends will pay him a fitting eulogy for the sacrifices he made over a half century ago on the sanguinary fields of battle in the Southland or in the no less dreaded prison, fever camp or hospital. One of these honored veterans in Clay county is Wright Works, who is now living in retirement at Hawley after an active life as a farmer.

Mr. Works was born in February, 1844, in St. Lawrence county, New York. He is a son of Joseph T. W. and Susan (Thornton) Works. Her father settled in New York state in the year 1807. Her death occurred in 1849 at the age of thirty-six years. Joseph T. W. Works was born in Cuyahoga county, New York, in October, 1803. He devoted his life to school teaching for the most part, and farmed some. He finally left his native state and located in Hardin county, Ohio, where his death occurred in 1866 at the age of sixty-two years. His family consisted of four children,

namely: Wright, subject of this sketch; Lucian, deceased; Warren, who came to Clay county among the early pioneers in 1873, took up a homestead in section 20, Cromwell township, which he later sold and bought a farm in Hawley township, operating the same until 1907, when he sold out and moved to the state of Washington, where he now resides, and Lena, the youngest child, who died when nineteen years old.

Mr. Works is descended from an early founder of this great nation, one of his ancestors being one of three Works brothers who came over from Ireland, about twenty years after the landing of the Pilgrims, and settled in Massachusetts. Moreover, Mr. Works is of Revolutionary stock. His grandfather, Asa Works, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and received a broken arm in the battle of Monmouth. According to tradition, his mother's Grandfather Rounds and his father's Grandfather Mark were also soldiers in the Revolution.

Wright Works grew to manhood in St. Lawrence county, New York, and there attended the common schools. He and all his brothers were soldiers in the Union army during the war between the states, and he and his brother Lucian served in Company B, Sixtieth New York Volunteer Infantry, the latter being only sixteen years old when he enlisted. He was with Sherman on his march through Georgia to the sea. Warren, who was in Battery H, Fourth New York Heavy Artillery, was also only sixteen when he enlisted in the spring of 1863. They all three came out of the service with wounds, but those of Lucian and Warren were not serious. Wright, who was eighteen when he enlisted, took part in the great battle of Gettysburg, where he was injured by a musket ball destroying his right eye, passing through the nose and injuring the left side of his head. He spent the latter part of his term of enlistment in the hospital.

Wright Works returned home after he was honorably discharged from the army and engaged in farming in his native state until 1891, when he came to Clay county, Minnesota, and lived with his brother Warren. He first bought eighty acres in Keene township, where he farmed until he moved to section 19, Hawley township, where he continued farming, buying a good place there, which he sold in the fall of 1916 and moved to the village of Hawley, where he has been living retired. He owns a pleasant home there.

Mr. Works was married at Moorhead, Minnesota, in May, 1907, to Maude Whaley, who was born in April, 1863, in London, England, from which country she came to America when ten years old. The union of Mr.

and Mrs. Works has resulted in the birth of a son, Wright Works, Jr., who is ten years old at this writing.

Mr. Works takes a good American citizen's interest in his political party. He is a member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, of which he was commander for one year. He has served four terms as justice of the peace, discharging his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner. His decisions were always characterized by an accurate knowledge of the law and by fairness to all parties concerned.

JACOB GARVEN.

The late Jacob Garven, who died at his home in Alliance township, Clay county, on June 2, 1914, was born in Wisconsin on August 30, 1867, and in the days of his young manhood came over into Minnesota and settled in Clay county, where he spent the rest of his life, becoming a substantial landowner and farmer. On June 17, 1892, at Barnesville, he married Mathilda Peter, who was born in Germany, September 8, 1875, and who had come to this country with her parents, August and Hannah (Becker) Peter, in 1891, the family coming on out to Minnesota and settling at Barnesville, where August Peter spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1903. His widow is still living in Clay county, being now past eighty-two years of age. August Peter and wife were the parents of five children, of whom Mrs. Garven was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Mary, Millie, Herman (deceased) and Bertha. Mrs. Garven's sisters are all married.

It was in 1896 that Jacob Garven established his home in section 23 of Alliance township and there he spent the remainder of his life, becoming a well-to-do farmer. He was the owner of seven hundred and twenty-three acres of land, now owned by his widow, and at his death in 1914 left his family in comfortable circumstances. He made all the improvements on his home place and had an excellent farm plant there. The management of this plant is now being carried on by his widow and her sons, who are successfully engaged in general farming. In the summer of 1917 the Garvens were cultivating sixty-five acres of potatoes, in agreement with many other farmers hereabout that potatoes form one of the most profitable crops that can be raised in the Red River valley.

To Jacob and Mathilda (Peter) Garven were born eight children,

George, Alfred, Walter, Della, Charles, Harold, Lester and Ernest, all of whom are living on the home place with their mother. The Garvens attend the German Lutheran church and take an interested part in the work of the church, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

CLAUS P. LAMMERS.

Claus P. Lammers, a native-born German, but who has been a resident of this country for more than thirty-five years, and is now the owner of a fine farm in Elmwood township, Clay county, was born in the Fatherland in 1859. He is the son of Frenz and Anna (Keuh) Lammers, also born in Germany and both of whom are now deceased. They were of the farming class and trained their children to lives of usefulness and self-reliance. Frenz and Anna Lammers were the parents of the following children: John, Jurgen, Mary, Margaret, Catherine and Claus P., the subject of this sketch.

Claus P. Lammers was educated in the excellent schools of his native land. For some time after leaving school, he worked at farm labor and later decided to try his fortune in America. He left Germany in 1882 and, on his arrival in this country, came on out to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Elmwood township. He commenced farming on his own account and, after the lapse of some time, purchased a tract of land and proceeded to put it under cultivation. As he prospered in his farming, he added more land to his original holding and is now the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of prime land. He is now carrying on general farming according to modern methods of agriculture and is doing very well. When Mr. Lammers acquired his present holdings, there were very few improvements on the place. He has, however, been to considerable expense to bring the farm up to a good standard in this respect and there are now on the place large and substantial outbuildings and a fine dwelling, and Mr. Lammers and his family are here comfortably situated.

In 1886 Claus P. Lammers was united in marriage to Minnie Poehls and to their union the following children have been born: Frank, who is married; Emma, married; John, married; and Louie, Hulda, Edward and Anna, all at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Lammers are not members of any church, but their children have all been confirmed at the Lutheran church. Mr. Lammers takes a good American citizen's interest in his

political party and has given of his time and attention to the interests of the public for many years. He was elected to the township board and served as a member for six years. He is now the treasurer of the school board, which office he has been filling for the past six years, and to the duties of which he gives unremitting care and attention.

WILLIAM P. LARSON.

William P. Larson, an energetic and substantial young farmer of Riverton township, this county, proprietor of a fine farm in section 29 of that township, also member of the school and township boards and in other ways identified with public affairs, was born on August 12, 1876, at Byron, Minnesota. He is a son of Chris and Mary (Jensen) Larson, both natives of the kingdom of Denmark and who were married in that country before coming to America.

Chris Larson was born in Denmark in 1847 and was educated in the schools of that country. He worked at farm labor up to the time of his leaving the old country to try his fortune in the land of opportunity at this side of the Atlantic. At the age of twenty-four, in 1871, he immigrated to America and came on out to Minnesota, settling on a farm at Byron, and there he farmed for the remainder of his life. He prospered in his farming operations and was regarded as an expert in the agricultural neighborhood where he made his home. He was married in Denmark about the year 1870, to Mary Jensen and his death occurred in January, 1914, at the age of sixty-five years. His wife's birthplace also was in Denmark, her birth taking place in 1847, and she is still living on the home farm at Byron, vigorous in mind and body, at the age of seventy. They were recognized in their home community as active and influential residents, ever helpful in neighborhood good works. Chris Larson and wife were the parents of the following children: Jens, who is married; Alfred; Lewis, married; Christine, married, and William P., the subject of this sketch, and all of whom are living in the United States.

William P. Larson was educated in the common schools of his home neighborhood in Byron and was reared on his father's farm. From boyhood he was an able assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place and continued to work on the farm until 1902. In the latter year he acquired his present holding in Clay county, in section 29, Riverton

township, where he is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land, as good quality as any in the township, and about twenty-five acres of which are given over to the raising of potato crops. Mr. Larson carries on general farming and raises Duroc-Jersey hogs. Since the commencement of his operations he has been quite successful, everything about his farm being in excellent condition and the improvements of a substantial and durable character.

Mr. Larson gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and has served on the district school board for seven years and on the township board for nine years; and in these representative capacities he has given unqualified satisfaction. In other ways also he shows a warm interest in local civic affairs and in the general affairs of the community. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is known to be an active supporter of the objects of that order.

OLE QUAM.

Another of the alert and persevering farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, who is making a success at his chosen life work is Ole Quam, who was born in Norway, April 6, 1875, a son of John and Unnia (Peterson) Quam, both also natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1880 and came to Minnesota, locating in Eglon township, Clay county, where they spent about six months, then took up a homestead of eighty acres in the adjoining township of Highland Grove, where their son Ole now resides. Later John Quam bought an additional tract of one hundred and twenty acres, all of which he placed under good improvements, and carried on general farming successfully until his death. His widow is still living on the home place. The family erected a fine group of buildings and set out a large grove. Seven children were born to John Quam and wife, namely: Inga, Ole, Christián, Severina, Anna, Peter and John, all of whom are living.

Ole Quam was five years old when his parents brought him to America. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Highland Grove township where he has continued to reside. He helped his father with the general work of the farm when a boy, and he attended the local rural schools in the winter time. He owns two hundred acres of the homestead, which he has kept well improved and under a fine state of cultivation, carrying on general

farming and stock raising successfully. He has taken an interested part in local civic affairs and for five years served as township supervisor. The family helped organize the United Lutheran church at Hitterdal, but is now affiliated with the Synod church.

WILLIAM SPRUNG.

Among the native-born citizens of Germany who have come to the United States and engaged in general farming and the raising of stock, is William Sprung, who was born in the Fatherland in 1871. He is the son of August and Rika (Lau) Sprung, who were also born in Germany and who remained there until thirty-three years ago.

August Sprung was born in Germany in 1835, and in that country he followed the life of a farmer. In 1884 he decided to try his fortune in America and arrived in this country after a voyage of about two weeks. He started out for Illinois and remained in that state for three months and then moved to Iowa, where he operated a farm for about nineteen years. At the end of that period he came up into the state of Minnesota and settled on a farm in section 19, Moland township, Clay county. There he established his home and continued to give his undivided attention to the labors of his farm and there spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in the fall of 1908. Prior to leaving Germany, August Sprung had for some years been married to Rika Lau, who came to America with her husband and the other members of the family, in 1884, and is now living with her son, William, the subject of this sketch. To August Sprung and wife the following children were born: Otto, who is married; Anna, living in Clay county; William, August, Rudolph, Manda, and Edith, the latter four children being deceased. Mr. Sprung was an active and influential man of the district in which he had lived.

William Sprung was educated in the schools of Germany and in 1884 came with his parents to America and accompanied them to Illinois and later to Iowa, where under the careful training of his father he learned the rudiments of farming. He moved to Clay county in the spring of 1902 and shortly afterward commenced farming on his own account. He is now the owner of three hundred and ten acres of prime land, and plants an average crop of seventy-five acres to potatoes, all his farming operations being carried on in accordance with modern methods. In addition



WILLIAM SPRUNG AND FAMILY.

to his general farming he has for some years paid considerable attention to the raising of a good grade of live stock and now has some excellent Shorthorn cattle on his place. Mr. Sprung's farm is well improved and his outbuildings are substantial and modern in equipment. He has recently remodeled the dwelling house and has converted it into a modern residence, provided with all conveniences, including electric lights. He is accounted one of the substantial and progressive farmers of this section of the county.

Mr. Sprung's maternal grandfather, Christian Lau, was a farmer in Germany, where he died at the age of sixty-two years. Mr. Sprung's maternal grandmother, Rika Lau, also died in Germany, at the fine old age of eighty-seven, her death occurring about 1898.

WILLIAM H. RASEY.

William H. Rasey, a well-known and successful lawyer, living at Ulen, Clay county, was born near St. James, Watonwan county, Minnesota, September 14, 1885, a son of Elwin Z. and Helen Adele (Sargent) Rasey, the former of whom is a native of Hartford, Washington county, New York, being born November 23, 1844, and the latter, a native of Fond du Lac county, Wisconsin. They are the parents of seven children, namely: Roy S., Ruth A., Inez E., William H., Jessie A., Flora E., and Nina O. Both father and mother are living in St. James, Watonwan county, in substantial and well-earned retirement.

William H. Rasey received his elementary education in the schools of St. James, Minnesota, graduating from the high school of that place in 1905. In the same year, he entered Hamlin University to pursue a supplementary course of study. In the fall of 1906, he took up a homestead of government land in Williams county, North Dakota, and proved up his claim in the fall of the following year. Since the laws of Ontario, Canada, at that time allowed a homestead to be taken and proved up by an alien without his becoming a British subject, Mr. Rasey went up into that province in the spring of 1908 and there filed a claim. In the fall of that year, he returned to his studies in Hamlin University and completed his sophomore year, but the following winter of 1909 and the spring and summer of 1910 he spent on his homestead, during which time he cleared fifteen acres and marketed the timber. Returning to Minnesota in the fall of 1910, he began a law course in the St. Paul College of Law, but

on the coming of the following spring, he returned again to his Canadian claim, where he remained until the fall of 1913, occupying his time in working on his holding and in reading law. He then resumed his studies in the St. Paul College of Law, and in the summer of the following year, proved up his claim in Ontario. He then returned to college, and in the spring of 1915 came to Clay county and entered the law office of C. G. Dosland, in Moorhead. He then, in the fall of 1915, located in the practice of his profession at Lake Park, Becker county, Minnesota. His business in the northwestern part of Becker county brought him to Ulen on his weekend trips, and, after three months, he decided to locate in Ulen. He came here January 1, 1916, and has been here ever since engaged in general law practice.

In 1915, September 9, William H. Rasey and Una Chambard, daughter of F. G. and Emma C. (Torrey) Chambard, of Valley City, North Dakota, were united in marriage. Mrs. Rasey is a musician of considerable talent, having been a student of music practically all her life. She is teacher of both piano and voice and has attained great success as an instructor.

Mr. and Mrs. Rasey are members of the Congregational church, in Ulen, and are interested in all the activities of that church. Mr. Rasey is affiliated with the local lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. He is a member of the Community Club, of which he is secretary.

JOHN LINDAHL.

John Lindahl, a venerable farmer of Spring Prairie township, Clay county, who has lived beyond the age of fourscore years, having reached the advanced age of eighty-four years, the last three decades or more of which have been spent in this locality, can relate tales of many interesting events that have transpired here since this locality was first settled. He has witnessed with his own eyes the many changes that have taken place and in the processes which have brought these changes about he has played no inconspicuous part himself.

Mr. Lindahl was born in Sweden, August 8, 1833, a son of Johanas and Ingeborg Swenson, also natives of Sweden, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land. The father reached the unusual age of ninety-seven. Five of their children grew to maturity, namely: Carl, who

came to Minnesota and died in Clay county; Sarah, who died in Sweden; Martha and Johanna, who also died in the old country, and John, whose name forms the caption of this biographical review.

John Lindahl grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the common schools. On January 1, 1857, he married Sarah Johnson, a native of Sweden, in which country her parents spent their lives on a farm. Mr. Lindahl lived in Sweden, where he followed farming, until the year 1884, when he came to the United States, but his wife and some of their children did not follow him until 1885. Two of their sons and two daughters had preceded them here in 1882. Mr. Lindahl located first in Cass county, North Dakota, but after spending one summer there he moved across the river into Minnesota and about a year later settled on the farm on which he still lives in Spring Prairie township, Clay county, taking up a homestead, the north-east quarter of section 30. He endured the usual hardships and privations of pioneer life and by perseverance succeeded in developing a valuable farm and a comfortable home, carrying on general farming and stock raising until old age made it necessary for him to turn the active management of the place over to his sons. They have put up excellent new buildings, planted a large grove and made other important improvements.

To John Lindahl and wife sixteen children have been born, named as follow: Martha, who lives in Sweden, the widow of Carl M. Dahl; Charles, who died in infancy in Sweden; Charles, the second, who died in Minnesota at the age of twenty-seven years; Johanna, wife of Ole Lundene, of Clay county; Johanas, who is a blacksmith by trade and lives in Minneapolis; Ingre, wife of L. T. Larson, a farmer, of Spring Prairie township, Clay county; Christine, deceased, who was the wife of Nels Thompson, of Spring Prairie township, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume; Frank, who is farming on the home place; Gustav, who died in infancy in Sweden; Matilda, wife of R. P. Chandler, of Fargo; Carolina, wife of Theodore Ekroth, of Minneapolis; Augusta, wife of Gust Eurin, of Moorhead; Gust, who lives in Canada; Louise, a nurse in the United States army, who spent three years in the Philippine Islands and who is now (1917) in Panama; August, who is at home and helping on the farm, and Amanda, the only one of the children born in America, her birth having occurred in Clay county. She is the wife of Herst Miller and lives at Stockwood. The Lindahls are members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in local church work. Mr. Lindahl is a Republican and has ever given his earnest attention to the causes of good local government.

JOHN H. BRAMAN.

John H. Braman, a well-known and substantial farmer of Alliance township, Clay county, was born at Ludlow, Massachusetts, in January, 1868, son of Albert H. and Augusta H. (Pike) Braman, the former of whom was born in Granville, Massachusetts, July 14, 1838, and the latter, in Franklin, New Hampshire, November 29, 1839, who were married on November 20, 1858, and continued to make their home in Massachusetts until in 1869, when they came West and settled in Iowa, remaining there until 1886, in which year they came up into Minnesota and settled in Clay county, where they are now living, honored pioneers of that county. Upon coming up into the Red River country, Albert H. Braman homesteaded a quarter of a section of land, the place where he is now living, in Alliance township, Clay county, and there established his home. In 1909 his house was destroyed by fire and he and his son erected a new and much more commodious residence, the two families making their home together, the father now living practically retired from the active labors of the farm, though still making his regular weekly trips to Moorhead with butter and eggs. Albert H. Braman for many years took an active interest in local civic affairs and was for some time justice of the peace in and for his home township and for twelve years served as chairman of the board of township supervisors. To him and his wife six children have been born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ella, deceased; Charles, of Moorhead; George, deceased; Grant, of Portland, Oregon, and Gertrude, of Thompson, North Dakota.

John H. Braman was little more than an infant in arms when his parents moved from Massachusetts to Iowa in 1869, and in the latter state he received the greater part of his schooling, having been seventeen years of age when the family moved from Iowa to Clay county. From the beginning of his residence here he has been an energetic factor in the labors of developing and improving his father's homestead place in Alliance township and is now farming that place as well as a quarter of a section adjoining, in section 12, which he homesteaded on his own account upon reaching his majority, and is doing well as a general farmer and stockman. In addition to his grain farming, Mr. Braman has of late years been giving considerable attention to the raising of potatoes, and in the current season (1917) had out fifty acres of potatoes. He and his father have made all

the improvements on the place and have one of the best-equipped farm plants in that neighborhood. John H. Braman has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and for some time served as constable in his home township and is now treasurer of the local school board.

In October, 1896, in Fargo, John H. Braman was united in marriage to Anna Johnk, who was born in the city of Chicago in January, 1875, and to that union two children have been born, sons both, Albert H., named for his grandfather, and Clifford. The Bramans have a very pleasant home and take a proper interest in the community's general social activities.

THEODORE S. NELSON.

Theodore S. Nelson, cashier of the State Bank of Georgetown, Clay county, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, June 23, 1879, a son of Severt and Barbara (Moen) Nelson, both natives of Norway, in which country they spent their earlier years. Severt Nelson immigrated to America about 1862, locating among the early settlers of Fillmore county, Minnesota. About 1881 he came up to this part of the state and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Hendrum township, Norman county, where he carried on general agricultural pursuits until 1912, when he retired from active life and moved to the village of Hendrum, where he still makes his home. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. His family consists of the following children: Cornelius, Theodore S., Anton, Julia, Martin and Amanda.

Theodore S. Nelson grew to manhood on the home farm in Hendrum township, Norman county, and there attended the public schools, later becoming a student in Concordia College at Moorhead. He worked with his father on the home farm until he was twenty years of age, then began working in a store at Twin Valley, in the eastern part of Norman county, remaining there seven months; then worked three months for G. T. Ingberg in a store in the village of Hendrum. In 1901 he became assistant cashier of the State Bank of Hendrum and continued with that institution for three years. He then took a course in the Dakota Business College at Fargo, and in the spring of 1904, helped organize the State Bank of Georgetown and has been cashier of the same ever since, discharging his duties in a manner that has reflected much credit upon himself and to the entire satisfaction of both the stockholders and patrons; in fact, he has done much

to increase the prestige and popularity of this sound and safe banking house, which has had a very satisfactory growth. He is also secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Elevator Company at Georgetown, which operates one of the thriving elevators in Clay county.

In 1904 Mr. Nelson was married to Burgetta Gunderson, a daughter of Peter Gunderson and wife, of Hendrum, where she grew to womanhood and attended school. Mrs. Nelson was called to her eternal rest on April 16, 1916, leaving three children, Sylvester, Eunice and Hubert.

Mr. Nelson is a Republican and is one of the leaders of his party in Clay county. He was treasurer of the Republican county committee in 1916; is treasurer of the village of Georgetown, and is also treasurer of the local school district. As a public servant he has always discharged his duties in an able, faithful and creditable manner. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

OLE S. NARVERUD.

Ole S. Narverud was born in Norway, February 26, 1855, a son of Stengrim Ostenson and Birgit (Bakhus) Narverud, both natives of Norway, where they spent their entire life. They were the parents of eight children: Osten, Sunnev, Halvor, Ole S., Gurine, Barbro, Stengrim and Sivert.

Ole S. Narverud received his early education in the public schools of Norway, supplemented by attendance of public schools in Clay county for a few months after coming to this country. As a young man, he learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked for some time in his native country. In 1879 he came to America and located first in Goose Prairie township, Clay county, Minnesota, and three years later he bought one hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land in Highland Grove township, Clay county, and located on this land. He put up buildings and improved the land, breaking the sod and clearing the land of the wild growth of underbrush, and in time had the land in a fair condition for the production of crops. He lived on this farm for seven years and during that time expended a vast amount of hard labor incident in putting the land in condition for cultivation. In 1889 he sold the farm and worked out for about one year, and in July, 1890, he embarked in the hardware and implement business, at Hitterdal, in which he has continued ever since.

Mr. Narverud was married in 1882, to Gor Ostenson, and to this union eight children have been born, namely: Bertha Gustina, Tillie, Gustav O., Henry, Stina, Olga, Mabel and Lillian. Mr. Narverud and family are members of the Synod Lutheran church. While living on the farm Mr. Narverud served as supervisor of the township for six years.

MARTIN A. GIERE.

Martin A. Giere, a farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, April 19, 1861. He is a son of Amund and Kari (Jesme) Giere, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America, single, and were married in Dane county, Wisconsin. Nels and Mari Giere, the paternal grandparents, natives of Norway, came to America in 1846, locating first in Dane county, Wisconsin, among the early settlers, driving out from Milwaukee to Dane county with an ox-team. There the grandmother died ten years later. In 1856 the grandfather, with the parents of the subject of this sketch, made the trip in a prairie schooner, drawn by an ox-team from there to Olmsted county, Minnesota. Amund Giere bought one hundred and sixty acres in Wisconsin, which he later sold, and then bought land in Olmsted county, this state, of the government, and there he developed a good farm, on which he spent the rest of his life. His widow is still living there. Fifteen children were born to them, namely: Nels, Torbjern, Ole, Martin, Ingeval (deceased), Lew Columbus, Alfred (deceased), Otto Enoch (deceased), Alexandria, Tedman (who died in infancy), Tedman Oscar and Josephine Emilia (twins), Amanda Matilda and Clara Louisa, both of whom died in infancy, and Alfred.

Amund Giere, father of the above named children, was an influential man in his locality. He served as treasurer of the school board from the time it was organized until within a few years of his death. He helped organize the district he lived in, in Olmsted county, and also helped organize the first church in his community. This church was built of stone and he helped build it and remained an active church worker. This church has the reputation of being one of the finest rural churches in the state. Torbjern and Inga (Lee) Jesme, the maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1846 and located in Dane county, Wisconsin; later moved to Iowa and

then joined the parents of Martin A. Giere and spent the rest of their lives with them, she living there twenty-five years and he thirty years.

Martin A. Giere grew up on the farm and attended the common schools in Olmsted county, and there he bought one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved and farmed until 1896, when he came to Clay county and located on his present farm in Cromwell township, his place consisting of two hundred and eighty acres, which is well improved and well cultivated and on which he has carried on general farming and stock raising, breeding Shorthorn cattle, in a very successful manner. He is also interested financially in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Hawley, which he helped organize, and of which, for the first five years of its organization, he was president.

In the fall of 1891 Mr. Giere was married to Anna Maria Fingerson, a daughter of Ole Fingerson, and to this union the following children have been born: Archie Oliver, who died when eighteen years of age; Amie Elvita, Nels Rudolph, Helen Constance, Olga Maria, Logan, Morris and Alice. Mr. Giere is a Republican and is now township chairman, having been a member of the board for about fifteen years.

SOLOMON G. COMSTOCK.

The Hon. Solomon G. Comstock, former member of Congress from this district and one of the well-known and successful residents of Moorhead, was born in Penobscot county, Maine, on May 9, 1842. He received his education in the local schools and was reared on the home farm, where he remained until he was of age. After completing an academic course of study, he completed a course in law and was admitted to the bar in the year 1866. He later left his native state and located at Omaha, Nebraska, where he was identified with the legal profession for a time. In the year 1871 he came to Moorhead, where he has since resided. Here he engaged in the practice of his profession until 1884, when he engaged in the real-estate business. In this business he has met with much success, and although advanced in years he is still one of the active business men of his home city.

It was during his life as a practicing attorney that Mr. Comstock was elected to the position of county attorney, and while holding that office gave the most efficient service to the duties that were incumbent upon him. His ability as a lawyer and an advocate won for him the approval of a large



MRS. SARAH COMSTOCK.



HON. SOLOMON G. COMSTOCK.

circle of friends who hold him in the highest regard. In 1875, the voters of his district, recognizing his ability and integrity, elected him to the Legislature, a position he held for several terms, with credit to himself and honor to his constituents. He was later elected to the fifty-first Congress of the United States and served in that body with distinction.

In the year 1874, Solomon G. Comstock was united in marriage to Sarah Ball, a lady of high intellectual ability, and one held in the highest regard and esteem. She has devoted her life to the interest of her husband, her family and the good that she might do in the community in which she has lived. To this union three children have been born: Ada Louise, Jessie M. and George M. Mr. and Mrs. Comstock are most hospitable people and by their pleasing personalities and high ideals have had an elevating and substantial influence on the moral, educational and civic life of the district.

Since coming to the state Mr. Comstock has taken the greatest interest in all local affairs, and has taken a prominent part in all enterprises that had a tendency to the greater growth and advancement of his section of the state. He secured the location of the State Normal School at Moorhead and donated to the state the site occupied by that institution. His greatest desire at all times, has been for the general welfare of the community. His work in the real-estate business has given him an enviable position from which to work for a greater and a better community, in one of the greatest sections of one of the greatest states in the Union.

CHARLES F. SCHINDLER.

Charles F. Schindler, one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Barnesville township, owner of eight hundred and eighty acres of prime land in that township and one hundred and sixty acres in Canada, breeder of a choice strain of Hereford cattle, is a native of Germany, but has been living in this country since he was nineteen years of age. He was born on October 4, 1853, a son of Joseph and Catherine Schindler, who lived and died in Germany.

Joseph Schindler was born in Germany in 1814, was educated in the schools of that country and for the remainder of his life followed the occupation of a farmer. He died in his native land in 1868 at the age of fifty-four years. His wife, Catherine Schindler, was also born in Germany in 1817 and died in 1879, being then sixty-two years of age. They were the

parents of eleven children, Alexander (deceased), Ferdinand (deceased), Joseph, Angus T., Charles, Louisa, Fedoria, Marie, Barbara, Catherine and Christine. These parents were prominent and influential residents of their home locality.

Charles F. Schindler was educated in the excellent schools of Germany and for a few years he helped his father on the farm. In 1872, at the age of nineteen years, he immigrated to the United States and went on to Con-cinnati, Ohio, where he remained for six months. He then went to the city of St. Louis, Missouri, where he worked for two and a half years, at the end of which time he moved to St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1878 he came to Clay county and took a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14, Barnesville township, and on this place he is now living. He immediately set to work to break the land and put out crops and he was successful in his agricultural operations from the very beginning. He continued to add to his land holdings as time went on, and he is now the owner of eight hundred and eighty acres of the best quality of land in Barnesville township, two hundred acres of which, in section 23, he has rented. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is accounted one of the most substantial farmers in this section of the county. He has carried out a systematic series of improvements and his outbuildings and dwelling house are among the best in the district. In addition to his land holdings in Clay county, Mr. Schindler is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land across the border in Canada. On his home place he plants about eighty acres of potatoes, and his cattle, forty-two head of Herefords, are of the best strain obtainable.

On June 10, 1888, Charles F. Schindler was united in marriage to Ennie Moran, who was born on October 18, 1866, in Paris, France, and who came with her parents to America in 1872. Her parents are now dead. To Mr. and Mrs. Schindler the following children were born: August, who resides in Canada; Charlie, the captain of a vessel, who makes his home at San Diego, California; Christian, on the home farm; Louise, who died in 1915; Victoria, wife of E. F. McDunn, of Barnesville; Madeline, a nurse in the Fargo Hospital, and Cecelia, at home. Mr. Schindler gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, with special reference to educational matters, and served several years as a director of the school board. He was also a member of the township board for a long period and in each of these public offices he applied himself to the duties with ability and energy. The family are members of the Barnesville Catholic church.

KNUDT A. LEVERSON.

Farming is both pleasant and profitable when entered into with the spirit that has always dominated Knudt A. Leverson, one of the best tillers of the soil of Clay county, for he has never regarded it as drudgery and an undesirable occupation. He was born in Worth county, Iowa, May 25, 1870, a son of Amos and Julia Isabell (Quarve) Leverson, both natives of Norway, the former of whom came to America about 1849 and the latter, a year or two later, with her parents. Her father died in New York City shortly after reaching the New World, and the rest of the family came on to Wisconsin. Her parents were Teman and Kjersti (Sjong) Quarve. The mother later moved to Worth county, Iowa, and finally to Spring Grove, Minnesota, where her death occurred at the unusual age of ninety-six years. The father of the subject of this sketch located in Wisconsin upon his arrival in this country, but subsequently moved to Worth county, Iowa. He devoted his active life to general farming. In 1898 he came up into Minnesota and located on a farm in Cromwell township, Clay county, where he lived until his death, and there his widow is still making her home. The place consists of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, well improved in every way. To these parents the following children were born: Betsie, wife of E. Bronsvold, of Clay county; Clara, wife of A. Holm, of Clay county; Temen, of Fargo; Levi, of Clay county; Knudt, the subject of this sketch; George, who resides at Hawley; Oliver, who resides near Salem, North Dakota; Samuel, who resides on the old home farm, and Cora, deceased.

Knudt A. Leverson grew to manhood in Worth county, Iowa, and when a boy assisted his father with the general work on the farm, attending the public schools in the winter time. Upon leaving there he came to Minnesota and bought the farm on which he still resides, in Cromwell township, Clay county. He owns two hundred and forty acres of productive and well-cultivated land, all under excellent improvements, including a commodious residence and numerous outbuildings, all of which he has put up himself. He carries on general farming and stock raising, keeping a good grade of Shorthorn cattle. He had been a cattle raiser a number of years before leaving Iowa. Besides his farming, he is interested financially in the Farmers Elevator Company at Hawley, which he helped organize. He is also a stockholder in the company which operates the co-operative creamery at Hawley.

On June 8, 1894, Mr. Leverson was married to Julia Knutson, who was born in Iowa, where she grew to womanhood and was educated in the common schools. She is a daughter of Elling Knutson, a native of Norway, from which country he came to America when young. He has devoted his active life to general farming in Iowa, where he owns a good farm, but is now living in retirement. To Mr. and Mrs. Leverson seven children have been born, namely: Adolph, Ida and Ruth (twins), Earling, Myrtle, Alva and Cora (deceased). Mr. Leverson is a member of the Lutheran church. Politically, he is a Republican.

JOHN FORD.

When Clay county was covered with prairie grass and wild animals roamed the virgin plains over which wound Indian trails, John Ford came here from far-away England and assumed the life of a pioneer, voluntarily forsaking the advantages of civilization in its highest forms for the hardships and privations of life on the Western frontier. He assisted in establishing schools and churches and in introducing the general customs of modern life.

Mr. Ford was born in Wiltshire, England, June 26, 1847, a son of William and Jane (Smart) Ford, both natives of England, where they grew up, married and established their home. The father was a baker by trade and was also engaged in the grocery business. He and his wife both spent all their lives in England. They were the parents of eight children, namely: James, deceased; Anna, who was next in order of birth; Thomas, who is a member of the Yeomanry, a military organization in England; John, William, Elizabeth, Sidney and Emily.

John Ford grew to manhood in England and there attended school and was married. He came with the first English colony to settle in this part of the Red River country, arriving at Hawley on April 17, 1873. In the following May, or about a month after his arrival, he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Cromwell township. He had the foresight and judgment to select good land in a community that was bound to prosper in future years, and he has remained on his first purchase to the present time, or during a period of forty-five years. He worked earnestly and managed well and in due course of time he had his land under a fine state of cultivation and a comfortable home established. Today there are

few better or more highly improved farms in his locality. He has a large, substantial dwelling and numerous convenient farm buildings. Mr. Ford planted a grove in the early days here, which is now large and inviting, a most valuable addition to his farm and a distinctive feature of the landscapes thereabout. He later added one hundred and sixty acres to his original farm, making one of the best three-hundred-and-twenty-acre farms in the township. He raises a large quantity of grain and big herds of live stock, especially sheep. He has been a breeder of Shropshire sheep for the past thirty years. He also raises Berkshire hogs and Red Polled cattle. Mr. Ford is also a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Hawley, which he helped organize.

On August 29, 1867, Mr. Ford married Mary A. Parsons, who also was born in Wiltshire, England, a daughter of Nehemiah Parsons, a carpenter by trade, who spent his entire life in England. There Mrs. Ford grew to womanhood and attended school. Mr. and Mrs. Ford have one child, a son, Sidney, who lives on the home farm, which he helps operate. Politically, Mr. Ford is independent. He helped organize Cromwell township and was the first township assessor. He has also served as supervisor and as treasurer of the township, and has been a member of the local school board ever since the school district was organized, with the exception of one year when he was out of the county. When the district was first organized it embraced the entire eastern half of the township, known as district No. 44, which he helped to organize. When it was subdivided he helped to organize district No. 104.

JOHN P. NYGAARD.

John P. Nygaard, former president of the village of Halstad, manager of the Halstad Auto Company and of the electric-light plant in that village, a former deputy Indian agent and former grand chief templar of the Independent Order of Good Templars for Minnesota, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Norman county since he was about seven years of age. He was born near the city of Trondhjem, a seaport town of Norway, at the mouth of the Nid, May 7, 1874, son of P. J. and Jonette (Moen) Nygaard, both natives of that country, the former of whom is now living at Halstad, an honored pioneer resident of Norman county.

P. J. Nygaard was trained as a carpenter in his native land. He mar-

ried on April 9, 1860, and continued to make his home at Trondhjem until 1881, when he came to the United States with his family and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Hendrum township, Norman county, among the early settlers of that part of the county. In 1883, upon the establishment of the station at Halstad, he moved there and has ever since been a resident of that village. He has one of the first houses built at Halstad and, in his vocation as a carpenter, did much of the building there at an early day. On April 9, 1910, P. J. Nygaard and his wife celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage, the "golden wedding" celebration being the occasion of a joyful gathering of the family and about sixty guests. Of their seven surviving children there were six present, besides forty-three grandchildren and one great-grandchild. In the Nygaard family there are now living the father, P. J. Nygaard, seven children, fifty-one grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. P. J. Nygaard is a member of the United Lutheran church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being: Lovise, Karen, Jacob, Ingeborg, Hansine, Haldor and Ole, all of whom are living save the last named, who died in 1883.

John P. Nygaard was seven years of age when his parents came to this country and he grew to manhood in the village of Halstad, where he still makes his home. Upon completing the course in the village schools, he started in as a boilermaker and later worked for a year as a blacksmith for the Rushford Wagon Company. He then took employment with Sulerud & Lovesnes as a tinner and plumber, and worked for that company for fourteen years, or until in January, 1913, when he helped to organize the Halstad Auto Company at Halstad and has since been manager of the same, the company doing a general garage and auto-repair business. Mr. Nygaard also operates the Halstad light plant, which is owned by the Halstad Auto Company. For three years he served as president of the village, two years as trustee of the village board and for two years he served under William E. Johnson as a deputy Indian agent for this district.

On June 7, 1895, John P. Nygaard was united in marriage to Josephine Griffin and to this union six children have been born, Esther, Orin, Elva, Vernon, Edna and John, the latter of whom died in infancy. Mr. Nygaard is an ardent and active member of the Independent Order of Good Templars and has served a term as grand templar for the state of Minnesota, a work in which he took much interest and in which his earnest efforts in behalf of temperance were widely felt throughout the state.

JOHN O. HILLESTAD.

The business of the farmer is to make the farm produce the utmost possible at the lowest cost, and to be certain of a ready cash market for all that is produced. Thus the farmer who succeeds nowadays must use both his brain and his brawn. One of the tillers of the soil in Cromwell township, Clay county, who seems to be both a good planner and a hard worker is John O. Hillestad, who was born in Norway, July 12, 1860. He is a son of Ole J. and Thora Christina (Hillestad) Hillestad, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the mother still resides, the father dying several years ago. They never came to America. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Karin Ellina, John O., Hans, Peter, Sophia (deceased), Martin, Andrew and Gustav.

John O. Hillestad spent his boyhood in Norway where he attended school. He came to Minnesota in 1879 and located in Fillmore county, where he remained four years, working as a farm laborer. He came to Clay county in 1883, driving up here with three horses and a buggy. He continued to work out on farms until 1887, when he moved on his present farm, in Cromwell township, as a "squatter," later buying the land from the railroad, when it was placed on the market. He worked hard improving the place, built a house and outbuildings and by perseverance and good management has succeeded as a general farmer and stock raiser and now owns two hundred and forty acres. He not only has exceptionally fine farm buildings, but a large and inviting grove surrounding them. Mr. Hillestad has become one of the substantial men of affairs in his township and is a director in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Hawley, which he helped organize. He is also a stockholder and director in the Lake Park and Cuba Fire Insurance Company.

On December 24, 1884, Mr. Hillestad was married to Stena Maria Nelson, a native of Norway and a daughter of Andres Nelson and Helga (Hyhus) Eck, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Norway. They came to America in 1883, coming directly to Minnesota, and at once located in Parke township, Clay county, where they bought an eighty-acre farm, on which they established the family's future home, and there spent the rest of their lives. Their family consisted of four children, namely: Jennie, who came to Wisconsin in 1880, later came to Clay county, Minnesota, where her death occurred some time ago; Stena Maria, wife of the

subject of this sketch; Ingeborg, deceased; and Carrie, the youngest. The eldest daughter came to America alone, but the three younger children came with their parents in 1883. To Mr. and Mrs. Hillestad ten children have been born, namely: Oscar, Albert (deceased), Tilda, Henry, John, Sarah, Edwin, Carl, William and Ida (deceased).

Politically, Mr. Hillestad is an "Independent." He has served as township supervisor and was township assessor for a period of fifteen years. As a public servant he has performed his duties ably and acceptably. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

EUGENE J. HERRINGER.

Eugene J. Herringer, abstractor and real-estate dealer, of Ada, former auditor of Norman county, former mayor and former clerk of Ada and one of the best-known and most progressive citizens of that city, is a native of Canada, but has been a resident of Ada since he was eighteen years of age.

Upon completing his schooling in the public schools of his native province of Ontario, Eugene J. Herringer came to Minnesota and in May, 1882, located at Ada, where he ever since has resided. Upon his arrival there he secured employment as a member of Norman county's excellent teaching corps and for eight years spent his winters teaching school, the summers being employed at various forms of clerical labor. He then was engaged in the office of the auditor of Norman county and served as deputy county auditor for six years, at the end of which time he was elected county auditor. In the succeeding election he was re-elected to that office thus served for eight years as auditor of the county. Upon the completion of his term of public service Mr. Herringer engaged in the abstracting business as a partner in the Norman County Abstract Company and about 1908 became sole proprietor of the business of that company, which he since has conducted alone, at the same time giving his attention to his flourishing real-estate business, long having been recognized as one of the leading realty dealers in this part of the state.

In addition to his considerable term of service in the court house, Mr. Herringer also has performed valuable service in behalf of the city of Ada. For five years he served as clerk of that city and he also has served a term as mayor of the city, in all his public acts doing all in his power to advance the growing interests of his home city.



EUGENE J. HERRINGER.

CHARLES J. CEDERBERG.

There came to our great western plains some three decades ago, "a youth to fortune and to fame unknown," Charles J. Cederberg, who, by perseverance and good management has become one of the progressive farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county. He was born in Sweden, November 30, 1859, and is a son of Carl Cederberg and wife, fitting mention of whom is made in the sketch of August Cederberg, which appears on another page of this work.

Charles J. Cederberg grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools. He also attended school a while after coming to the New World, for which he set sail from his native shores when twenty-five years of age. He came directly to Minnesota, arriving in the village of Hawley, Clay county, in March, 1884. He worked as a farm hand in that vicinity for two years, during which time he made his home in Hawley. He saved his earnings and in 1886 purchased the farm on which he has since made his home, the place consisting of eighty acres in Highland Grove township. He has increased his holdings to two hundred acres, which he has brought up to a high state of cultivation and improvement, putting up an excellent group of buildings, and has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Cederberg helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Hawley and was elected first president of the same, serving thus two years; remaining a director until 1917, and a heavy stockholder. He was also the second president of the company, which position he occupied two years, and did much for the successful growth of the same.

Mr. Cederberg was married on December 31, 1886, to Ingeborg Westberg, a native of Sweden, where she spent her childhood. She came to America about 1882, taking up her residence at Hawley. To this marriage two children were born, Jennie and Selma. In 1894 Mr. Cederberg was married again, his second wife being known in her maidenhood as Johanna Danielson, also a native of Sweden, in which country she grew to womanhood, immigrating to the United States in 1894 and coming directly to Hawley, Minnesota. Two children have been born to this second union, Alma and Alice.

Politically, Mr. Cederberg is independent. He helped organize the school district in which he resides and has been a member of the school board ever since. He was elected township supervisor in 1888 and has continued a member of the board ever since, with the exception of about

three years; chairman of the same during the past eighteen years, with the exception of the year 1916, when he was prevented from serving on account of illness. As a public servant Mr. Cederberg has always performed his duties in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner, for he has at heart the best interests of his community, which he always seeks to promote in every legitimate way.

CHARLES B. ROMKEY.

Charles B. Romkey, a substantial and progressive farmer of Clay county, justice of the peace in and for Riverton township, former chairman of the township board, former treasurer of the school board, and in other ways identified with public affairs, is a native of the state of Iowa, but has been a resident of this part of Minnesota for more than twenty years. He was born on January 4, 1873, near Burlington, Iowa, a son of Conrad D. and Catherine Romkey, natives respectively, of Prussia and of Hessen Darmstadt.

Conrad D. Romkey had a somewhat varied career. When yet not more than a mere boy he was with Napoleon some few years before the final defeat of that great soldier. Another member of the Romkey family, a brother of Conrad D., had also military tastes and was one of Emperor William's body guards. Conrad Romkey immigrated to the United States in 1822, coming on to Defiance, Ohio, where he owned land and operated a boat yard for several years. In 1854 he moved to Iowa, had a fine farm of land and continued the work of the farm for the remainder of his active life. He was regarded as an excellent farmer and he and his wife were active and influential residents of the district in which they had made their homes. Both lived to good ages, Conrad Romkey dying in 1880 and his widow in 1909, both deaths occurring at Burlington, Iowa. Mrs. Romkey owned one-half of a section of land in Riverton township, Clay county. They were the parents of the following children: Frank C., deceased; John H., deceased; Edward W., married; Emma, married; Carrie E., married; Sarah, married; Anna, married, and Charles B., the subject of this sketch.

Charles B. Romkey was educated in the public schools of Iowa and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labors of the same for several years. He is quite a machinist, having operated several threshing-machine outfits and assisted also in the contract work on the Northern

Pacific recently. He has been a resident of Clay county for upwards of twenty years and is recognized throughout the township as one of the most progressive and substantial farmers in the district in which he resides. He is now the owner of four hundred and sixty-five acres of prime land, located in sections 9, 16 and 17, Riverton township. Mr. Romkey carries on general farming and since the commencement of his operations he has been quite successful, everything about his holdings being in excellent condition. He has carried out many valuable improvements at considerable expense, and his farming is managed according to modern methods of agriculture, thus ensuring a maximum of profitable results.

In the summer of 1897 Charles B. Romkey was united in marriage to Nellie M. Miller, who was born in Burlington, Iowa, in 1876. To this union two children have been born, Horace C., aged seventeen, and Margaret G., aged thirteen. Mr. and Mrs. Romkey take a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of people and district. Mr. Romkey served as postmaster at Stockwood, for many years, giving general satisfaction to the patrons in the discharge of the duties of the office. He was chairman of the township board for three years; was treasurer of the district school board for six years, and is at present serving as justice of the peace. In many other ways also he has given of his time and energy to the interests of the public.

PROF. SEVERT O. TANG.

Prof. Severt O. Tang, superintendent of schools of Clay county and one of the best-known and most influential citizens of Moorhead, is a native of the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was two years of age, and is therefore as much a Minnesotan as one "native and to the manner born". He was born at Wauzeka, in Crawford county, Wisconsin, August 26, 1866, son of Ole and Sophia (Guam) Tang, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country in 1862 and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, settling first at Stoughton, in that state, and after spending the summer there moved to Madison, the capital of the state, where they remained for four years. At the end of that period they moved to Wauzeka, where they remained until 1868, in which year they came over into Minnesota and located at Albert Lea, where

they resided until 1878, when they came up into this part of the state and located in Lake Park township, Becker county. A year later they moved over into Clay county and Mr. Tang homesteaded a tract of eighty acres in Eglon township, where he established his home and where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, honored pioneers of that section of the county. Ole Tang was a substantial farmer, and he added to his homestead tract until he became the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres, which is now owned by his son, Professor Tang. Ole Tang and wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom six are still living, those besides Professor Tang being: Susan, who married O. N. Larson; Anna, who married L. N. Larson, and Henry M., Sophia and Christian.

Severt O. Tang was but two years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to Albert Lea, this state, and was about thirteen years of age when they came up here and settled in Clay county. He completed the common-school course in the graded schools at Lake Park and then began teaching school, rendering service in the school room during the winters and continuing a valuable aid in the labors of improving and developing the home farm during the summers. He was thus engaged for two years, at the end of which time he entered the State Normal School at Moorhead and was graduated from that institution in 1896, meanwhile continuing his teaching service, thus working his way through the Normal school. Following his graduation, he continued teaching and, after three years of service in the district school, was hired as grade teacher of the schools at Hawley, where he remained one year and then accepted the position of principal of the schools at Auburn. There he remained for three years, at the end of which time he was made principal of the schools at New York Mills and was thus engaged when, in 1909, he was elected superintendent of the schools of Clay county, with his office at Moorhead. Upon the expiration of that term of service two years later, Professor Tang was made principal of the consolidated schools at Comstock and was thus engaged there for two years and six months, at the end of which time he transferred his services to the new consolidated schools at Oak Mound. He was engaged as principal of the schools last named when, on January 6, 1914, he was appointed to fill an unexpired term in the office of superintendent of schools of Clay county and thus resumed his former official position. He then was elected county superintendent for a term of four years and is still serving in that important public capacity, long having been regarded as one of the leading schoolmen in this part of the state. In addition to his official duties, Professor Tang retains an active interest in

his farming operations and is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Eglon township, having added to the old home farm, which he owns, a tract of forty acres. During his residence in Eglon township, he served for five years as assessor of that township and also served for twelve years as justice of the peace in and for that township.

On July 19, 1916, Prof. Severt O. Tang was united in marriage to Jennie Ronning, a former teacher in the schools of Clay county. Professor and Mrs. Tang are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, helpful in advancing all worthy causes hereabout.

A. J. NORBY.

A. J. Norby, merchant and banker at Hitterdal, was born in Norway on January 12, 1867, a son of John G. and Thorena (Akre) Norby, both natives of that country. John G. Norby came to America in the spring of 1867 and located for one year in Allamakee county, Iowa. He then came to Minnesota, and for three years lived in Fillmore county. In 1871 he moved to Becker county and located on a farm two and one-half miles west of Lake Park, where he made his home until his death, which occurred on March 17, 1913. He owned two hundred and seventy acres at the time of his death. He was the father of ten children: G. J. Norby; Louise, who married C. K. Ekern; L. J., L. M., A. J., Henry (who died at the age of thirty-five), Hannah, Martin, William and Hilda. Mr. Norby was a member of the Norwegian church.

A. J. Norby was educated in the public schools of Lake Park, and worked on his father's farm until his marriage, in the summer of 1892. In that year he moved to Moorhead and was engaged in the general grocery business there until the spring of 1916. In that year he moved to Hitterdal, opened up a general merchandise store there and has been engaged in this business since. He is a successful business man and is interested in the promotion of business enterprises. He was one of the organizers of Clay County State Bank, of Hatterdal, and is at present one of the directors of this bank.

In 1892 Mr. Norby was married to Florence May Peck, daughter of E. A. Peck, of Lake Park, Minnesota. Mr. and Mrs. Norby have four children: Sarah, Myrtle, Corral and Lucile. They are members of the Synod Lutheran church. Mr. Norby is a member of the Yeoman lodge.

CHRISTIAN NICKLAY.

Christian Nicklay, a prominent and well-to-do farmer and owner of a fine farm of four hundred and forty acres of land in Barnesville township, Clay county, treasurer of the township board for the long period of thirty-two years and treasurer of the district school board for twenty-two years, was born in Dane county, Wisconsin, March 1, 1861, a son of John and Susan (Birk) Nicklay, both of whom were natives of Germany and who immigrated to the United States while still young.

John Nicklay was born in Germany in 1833 and was educated in the schools of that country, coming to America when about twelve years old. He moved from Buffalo county, Wisconsin, to Minnesota in 1879, driving two teams; leaving Buffalo on May 1, that year, and arriving at Barnesville, Clay county, at the end of twenty-eight days. He immediately homesteaded a farm in section 14, Barnesville township, and shortly afterward took a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres, south of Barnesville. Mr. Nicklay proceeded at once to break up his land and get it into a state fit for the planting of crops and presently had things well under way, his labors from the very start being successful. He continued to operate his land for the remainder of his active life and died in November, 1897, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, Susan Birk, also was a native of Germany, born in that country in 1835. She came to America when eighteen years old and four years after her arrival was married in Dane county, Wisconsin, to John Nicklay. They were the parents of the following children: Christian, the subject of this sketch; Jacob, a farmer in Barnesville township; Anna, married and living in the state of Washington; Peter, in Humboldt township; Lizzie, married, living in Montana; William, a railroad engineer, and John, a railroad conductor. The mother of these children died in 1905.

Christian Nicklay was educated in the public schools of Dane county, Wisconsin, and in 1879 accompanied his father to Clay county, and worked on the farm of the latter until he was twenty-three years old, at which time he made his first purchase of land. He bought eighty acres in Barnesville township and commenced the life of a farmer on his own account and as he prospered in his labors he continued to add to his holdings and is now the owner of four hundred and forty acres of excellent land in sections 11, 14 and 15. Mr. Nicklay has carried out many valuable improvements and his farms are now classed among the best in that section of

Clay county, he being accounted one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the township.

On January 9, 1890, at Mankato, this state, Christian Nicklay was united in marriage to Anna Bruels, who was born on August 4, 1868, in Blue Earth county, Minnesota. To this union the following children have been born: George, Leo (married), Mary (married), Catherine, Dora, Anton, Fred, Francis (deceased), Edmond, Mathilda and Mildred (twins) and Olivia. The family are members of the Catholic church of Barnesville and are active in support of all its good works. Mr. Nicklay is a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters. He served as treasurer of the township board for thirty-two years and has been treasurer of the district school board for twenty-two years, and in these representative public positions has rendered valuable service to the people of the district.

EDWARD ALBERTS.

The business of the farm and the business of farming, while in many points analogous, are in reality quite distinctive. The former carries with it the consideration of dollars and cents in the employment of labor, the outlay of capital on buildings and improvements; the cost of raising crops, as against the revenue received after harvesting and sale, the maintenance and repair of machinery and implements, and the saving to be made possible if improved machinery be installed on the farm. One of the citizens of Cromwell township, Clay county, who understands all phases of farming is Edward Alberts.

Mr. Alberts was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, November 30, 1868. He is a son of Klaus and Margaret (Bauman) Alberts, both natives of Germany, from which country they came to America when young and single. After their marriage they located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they made their home for about fifteen years, then moved to Dodge county, this state, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm. Their family consisted of eleven children, all of whom survive at this writing but one daughter, namely: George, William, Hiram, Mary, Edward, Kate, Ida (deceased), Margaret, Elizabeth, Frank and Benjamin.

Edward Alberts grew to manhood on the home farm and attended the public schools in Dodge county, this state. There he began farming for himself. In the spring of 1899 he came to Clay county and located on

the farm on which he still resides, in Cromwell township, and here he has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. His place consists of three hundred and twenty acres. He has erected an excellent group of buildings and everything about the place is kept in shipshape, indicating the good taste of the owner. He raises a large quantity of grain, much of which he feeds to live stock, preparing a number of carloads of stock annually for the markets, and is one of the best-known stockmen in Cromwell and adjoining townships. He was one of the organizers of the Hawley Live Stock Shipping Association and is a member of the board of directors of the same.

On March 7, 1894, Edward Alberts was married to Eliza Carter, who was born at Winona, Minnesota, a daughter of Harry and Sarah May Carter, natives of Devonshire, England, where they married. They came to America in 1875 and located at Winona, Minnesota. Mr. Carter died there in 1879 and his widow now resides in Mantorville, Minnesota.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Alberts, Guy, Ralph, Esther, Russell (deceased), Marjorie, Lloyd and Mildred. Mr. Alberts is a Republican and is township supervisor. He belongs to the Union church at Hawley.

EDWARD A. KASSENBERG

Another of the painstaking farmers of Clay county, who has worked hard for the success he has won is Edward A. Kassenborg, who owns a valuable farm, part of which lies in Kragnes township and part in Morken township. He was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in 1868, a son of A. G. and Tilda (Krageness) Kassenborg, natives of Norway, who located in Houston county in pioneer days and established the family home on a farm. The following children were born to A. G. Kassenborg and wife: Mrs. Carolina Berglin, who lives in Moorhead; Mina Augusta; Gilbert, who is unmarried and lives on a farm in Clay county; Mrs. Mary Moe, who lives in Moorhead; Edward, the subject of this sketch; Eliza, the wife of John Olnes; Julia, who married Christ Twedten and lives in Crookston, Minnesota, and Malina, deceased.

Edward A. Kassenborg grew up on the home farm in Houston county, and there he attended the common schools. He has devoted his life to general farming and stock raising and has been very successful. He came to Clay county as a young man and is now owner of a well-improved and

well-cultivated farm of three hundred and ninety acres, part of which lies in Kragnes township and part in Morken township. He makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle.

On October 15, 1890, Edward A. Kassenborg was married at Concordia church, Clay county, to Christina Kragnes, who was born in 1871 in Houston county, this state. She is a daughter of Levi and Sarah (Oleson) Kragnes, natives of Norway, the father born in 1837. They came to Minnesota in an early day and located on a farm in Houston county. The father died in 1900. His widow is still living on the homestead in Houston county, being now seventy-three years old. There were fourteen children in this family, eleven of whom are now living.

Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kassenborg, namely: Dora, the eldest; Alva, at home; Mabel, who is working as a bookkeeper in St. Luke's Hospital at Fargo; Louise and Selvene, twins; Elmer, Florence, Edna, Bennie, Gilbert and Ernest. They all live at home but the three elder children.

Politically, Mr. Kassenborg is a Republican. He served as treasurer of the school board in district No. 103, and was a director on the board for a period of twenty years.

MONS J. WANGEN.

Any man who works on the land, who feeds a field and watches the result, gains a real fundamental knowledge of the underlying foundation on which rests all our civilization. It makes him a sober man, a thoughtful man; and, if he experiments wisely, a hopeful optimist. Such a man is Mons J. Wangen, a farmer of Spring Prairie township, Clay county. He was born in Norway on September 1, 1851. He is a son of Johanas Monson and Carrie (Aslaksdater) Wangen, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their future home. They never came to America and died in their native country. He was a carpenter by trade. To these parents seven children were born.

Mons J. Wangen grew to manhood in Norway and there he attended the common schools. As a young man he learned the carpenter's trade under his father and in due course of time became an expert workman. He came to America about 1871, locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he spent six years, then came to Clay county with Ole G. Farsdale, a sketch

of whom appears elsewhere in this work. After looking over this section of the state Mr. Wangen took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, Spring Prairie township, which was the first homestead in that township. He was therefore the first pioneer in this locality, and he endured the usual hardships and privations incident to life on the frontier in those days, but he persevered, worked hard and has succeeded, remaining here ever since. He has brought his place up to a high state of improvement and cultivation and has built a cozy home and such outbuildings as his needs require. He set out a large grove which is now very attractive. He began with nothing, but he has forged ahead unaided and is now very comfortably situated. He passed through the lean years with hope for better times ahead, which finally came.

On March 17, 1876, in Goodhue county, Mr. Wangen was married to Anna Olson, a native of Trogenlien, Norway, and a daughter of Ole Inneson and Anna Peterson, also natives of Norway, who died there. Mrs. Wangen came to America in 1874. To Mr. and Mrs. Wangen seven children have been born, namely: Caroline, John (deceased); Anna, wife of William Moore, of Glyndon; a son who died in infancy; Oscar and two daughters who died in infancy.

Mr. Wangen is a Republican and has taken an active interest in local public affairs from the first. He helped organize Spring Prairie township and was one of the first members of the township board. He belongs to the Lutheran church and built the church, donating his labor to the congregation.

H. C. POSSEHL.

H. C. Possehl, farmer and potato dealer of near Baker, in the southern part of Clay county, and former postmaster at Baker, was born in Cook county, Illinois, May 24, 1871. He is a son of Fred and Minnie (Schlede) Possehl, both natives of Germany, where they spent their earlier years. The father immigrated to America about 1861, locating in Dupage county, Illinois, where he worked out the first few years, then rented a farm. He continued farming in that state, mostly in Cook county, until 1892, when he moved to Franklin county, Iowa, where he farmed seven or eight years, then retired from active life, locating in the town of Latimer, Iowa. In 1911 he moved to Minnesota, locating at Baker, where he has since lived retired. His wife died some years ago. Fred Possehl started out with lit-

the capital, but by perseverance he became very comfortably established through his own efforts. His family consisted of the following children: Sophia, Emma (deceased), Herman, H. C., Fred, Martha, Louis and Minnie.

H. C. Possehl grew to manhood in Illinois and there he attended the public schools, in Dupage county. He worked with his father on the farm when a boy and when a young man he began farming for himself in Franklin county, Iowa, and became the owner of eighty acres there, where he remained until 1902, when he moved to Minnesota and bought the L. H. Baker farm of two hundred and fifty acres adjoining the townsite of Baker, and in the following year he bought the general store from Mr. Baker and conducted the same with ever-growing success from 1903 until 1915, enjoying a large trade with the people of the surrounding country, and carrying an extensive and well-selected stock. He also served as postmaster at the town of Baker during that period, giving entire satisfaction to the people and the department. While postmaster he was one of the principal promoters of the rural mail route out of Baker. He subsequently bought the Evans farm of four hundred and eighty acres in section 10 of Alliance township, and now operates both farms, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale; also deals extensively in potatoes, maintaining a large modern warehouse on the Great Northern tracks at Baker. Mr. Possehl is also interested in the automobile business at Barnesville. His land is well improved and he has an attractive, modern and well-appointed home and large, convenient outbuildings, everything about his place denoting good management, thrift and prosperity. He has been very successful as a business man and is one of the substantial citizens of Clay county, also one of her most public-spirited citizens, always doing his part in furthering movements having for their object the general welfare of his town and county. Mr. Possehl raises a good grade of live stock, preparing large numbers for the markets annually, and is regarded as an excellent judge of stock. He keeps well abreast of the times in all that pertains to modern agriculture.

On January 15, 1911, Mr. Possehl was married to Rosa Butenhoff, who was born at Franklin, Iowa, September 18, 1880, a daughter of August Butenhoff and wife, natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Possehl the following children have been born: Edward, Arthur, Rudolph, Florence, Clara and Adaline.

Mr. Possehl is a Republican and has served as township supervisor. For a period of fourteen years he also was a member of the local school board. He belongs to the German Lutheran church, to which his parents

also belonged. He is a man of unquestioned honesty and his helpful, genial and neighborly characteristics have made him popular with all whom he has come in contact.

AUGUST FISCHER.

August Fischer, a retired lumberman of Georgetown, Clay county, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, December 14, 1854, a son of Fidilias and Celia (Gould) Fischer, both natives of Germany, where they spent their earlier years. Fidilias Fischer was a civil engineer and was very proficient in his line. He immigrated to Canada when a young man, establishing his future home in Ontario, where he spent the rest of his life. His family consisted of eight children, namely: August, Mary, Pauline, Lucas, John, Lena, George and Eliza.

August Fischer grew to manhood in his native community and there attended the common schools. As a young man he learned the carpenter's trade, becoming an expert in the same, and he followed that vocation until he was twenty-eight years old. He left Canada in 1881 and came to Minnesota, locating at Georgetown, Clay county, and has been there ever since. He has seen the country develop from a sparsely settled and little developed stretch of wild plains to its present high state of cultivation and improvement during his residence here of thirty-six years. He was local manager of the W. H. White Lumber Company for twenty-seven years, his long retention in this responsible position indicating that he gave eminent satisfaction to his employers, being able, faithful and reliable. He carried on an extensive trade with the people of this section of the state and kept an up-to-date and well-equipped lumber yard. He resigned his position in 1915 and retired from the lumber business, and soon thereafter opened a billiard hall in connection with a soda fountain and owns the fixtures and building. He has met with success in this new venture and his place is very popular. He is living practically retired and merely oversees his business.

In 1883 Mr. Fischer was married to Mary Hoffman, a native of Michigan, who was reared in North Dakota, where she attended the common schools. She is a daughter of John and Grace (Schuler) Hoffman, natives of Germany. John Hoffman was a brewer in Germany for about fifteen years. He moved to North Dakota in 1877 and took up a homestead. Both he and his wife are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Fischer the following

children have been born: Clara, Mary, Edward, August, Jr., Fred, Frank, Herbert, William and Claude.

Mr. Fischer is a Democrat. He served as justice of the peace for four years, as village treasurer for four years, as health commissioner for six years and as clerk of his school district for thirteen years. He has been active and influential in public affairs since locating at Georgetown and as a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able and conscientious manner. He is a member of the Catholic church, in which he was reared.

JOHN H. NORTHROP.

John H. Northrop, farmer and grain buyer of Georgetown, Clay county, was born in Allegan county, Michigan, May 18, 1865. He is a son of Stephen and Mary (Osterhout) Northrop. The father was a native of the state of New York and when young he went to Allegan county, Michigan, where he engaged in farming until 1882, when he removed with his family to Minnesota, and settled on a farm in Moland township, Clay county, where he continued farming until 1885, in which year he moved to Aitkin county, this state, and there he spent the rest of his life on a farm. His wife died in 1873. Their family consisted of five children, Charles, Albert, Alice, John H. and May, the last named of whom died when she was a child.

John H. Northrop grew to manhood on the farm in Allegan county, Michigan, being eighteen years old when he came with the family to Minnesota. He received his education in the rural schools near Troy, Michigan. During the crop seasons he worked with his father raising the various crops adapted to this latitude. When nineteen years old he began farming for himself in Kragues township, Clay county, and he has continued general agricultural pursuits ever since, raising grain and live stock and his efforts have been amply rewarded. In 1889 he moved to Cass county, North Dakota, just across the river from Clay county, remaining there until 1903, when he moved back to Clay county, locating at Georgetown and this has been his place of residence ever since. Since 1902 he has been local manager of the St. Anthony elevator and has built up a large and growing business with the surrounding country, making this one of the leading and popular elevators in the county. He is owner of two hundred and twenty acres of valuable and well-improved land in section

30. Georgetown township, but he maintains his residence in the village, where he has a comfortable home.

Mr. Northrop was married in 1860 to Belle Northrop, who was born at Dowagiac, Michigan, a daughter of Charles D. and Charlotte (Sarbner) Northrop, natives of that same place. Mr. Northrop is a Democrat and is the present president of the town council of Georgetown. He has done much in building up his home town, whose interests he has ever had at heart, ever seeking to promote the same along all legitimate lines. In his fraternal relations Mr. Northrop is a member of the Modern Brotherhood of America.

RANDOLPH M. WEUM

Randolph M. Weum, a successful merchant at Georgetown, Clay county, and postmaster of that village, was born in Norway, March 27, 1879. He is a son of Mons V. and Johanna (Landgaad) Weum, natives of Norway, where they lived and died. They were parents of six children, namely: Ellen, Edward, Mikel, John, Randolph M. and Jennie.

Randolph M. Weum grew to manhood in Norway and there he received a common-school education. He immigrated to America in 1900 and located at Gardener, Cass county, North Dakota, just across the Red River of the North from Clay county, Minnesota, and there he worked out as a farm hand for two years, in the crop seasons. During the winter time he attended Concordia College, at Moorhead. In 1902 he came to Georgetown and began clerking in the general store of M. T. Weum and S. S. Dalen, proving to be an alert, wide-awake, faithful and reliable employee. He continued as a clerk, saving his wages and mastering the various ins and outs of the general-merchandising business until 1909, when he purchased a third interest in the business and has since devoted his attention to the building up of the store, which is one of the well-known and popular mercantile establishments of Holy Cross township. He is the only member of the firm living at Georgetown. A large and carefully selected stock of goods is carried, including everything used by the farmers and citizens of Georgetown. The firm name is Weum, Dalen & Company.

Mr. Weum has been postmaster at Georgetown for the past nine years and has given entire satisfaction in this capacity to both the people of his community and to the postoffice department, being prompt, faithful and painstaking. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

HANS L. JOHNSON.

There is both pleasure and profit to be derived from farming when one goes about it in an intelligent and ambitious manner like Hans L. Johnson, of Cromwell township, Clay county, who has forged his way up from an early environment none too promising by sheer courage and perseverance.

Mr. Johnson was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, June 4, 1879. He is a son of Lewis C. and Karin Ellina (Hillestad) Johnson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America, single, the former locating in Freeborn county, Minnesota, in 1871. She came to Fillmore county, this state, in 1873, with her parents, who are mentioned on another page of this work. There she lived with her folks until her marriage.

Lewis C. Johnson was the son of Carl and Johanna (Peterson) Johnson, natives of Norway. Carl Johnson died in his native land and his widow came to Minnesota in 1873 and spent the remainder of her life in Fillmore county. Lewis C. Johnson and family came from Fillmore county to Clay county in 1882, driving an ox-team to a "prairie schooner," and located in Cromwell township, where he entered a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he still owns. He put on all improvements, including an excellent group of buildings. He has a fine farm of two hundred and eighty acres. He also owns timber land in Becker county, this state. His family consists of five children, namely: Johanna, Hans L., Emma, Ida and Nora, all of whom are living.

Lewis C. Johnson helped organize the first Lutheran church in his locality. He also helped organize the Farmers Co-operative Creamery Company at Hawley, his interest in that concern now being owned by his son, Hans L. The father has held township offices nearly all his active life, but is now retired from public life, as well as from active farming. He organized his home school district and served on the board of the same for many years, from the time of its organization until he was succeeded by his son, the subject of this sketch.

Hans L. Johnson grew to manhood on the home farm and was educated in the public schools of Clay county. He worked on the farm with his father when a boy and started life for himself as a young man by working in the Evans elevator at Hawley for six years, giving his employer entire satisfaction and becoming known as one of the leading grain buyers in this section of the state. He then took up farming on the old home place

in Cromwell township, which he has since operated with success, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, and keeping the land well improved and well cultivated. He also owns eighty acres of good land of his own, but he lives with his father. Besides general farming he raises a large acreage of potatoes each year, also pays considerable attention to dairying.

On November 22, 1906, Hans L. Johnson was united in marriage to Petra Solum, who was born in Tansem township, Clay county, where she grew up and attended school. She is a daughter of P. P. Solum and wife, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work. Four children have been born to Hans L. Johnson and wife, namely: Leon, Harvey, Orpha and Bertram.

ERNEST FREDERICK KRABBENHOFT.

Ernest Frederick Krabbenhoft, chairman of the board of supervisors of Elmwood township, one of the most substantial and progressive young farmers in Clay county and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and sixty acres in Elmwood township, where he and his family have an admirable, modern establishment, is a native son of Clay county, born in the neighborhood in which he is now living, and has lived there all his life. He was born on June 10, 1880, son of Wolf C. and Mary (Jensen) Krabbenhoft, natives of Germany, who became pioneers of Clay county and the latter of whom is still living on the old home place in Elmwood township.

Wolf Christopher Krabbenhoft was born in the Prussian province of Schleswig-Holstein in 1847 and in 1872 came to the United States and proceeded on out to the Red River country and homesteaded a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Elmwood township, Clay county, being the first permanent white settler in that township. He was the eldest son of his parents and had come to "spy out the land" for the family, who were desirous of setting up a new home in the land of the free far away to the west, and in 1874 his parents, W. F. and Katherine (Jess) Krabbenhoft, and the five other members of the family joined him here on his homestead place, the Krabbenhoft family thus becoming recognized as among the very early settlers of that part of the county. W. F. Krabbenhoft bought the homestead place from his son Wolf and in 1882 sold it to his younger son, Henning, who is still living there and a biographical sketch of whom, together with further details of the settlement of the Krabbenhoft family



ERNEST F. KRABELNIGOT AND FAMILY



WOLF C. KRABBENHOFT.

in Clay county, is presented elsewhere in this volume. After selling his homestead tract Wolf C. Krabbenhoft bought another tract nearby and after his marriage in 1878 established his home there, continuing to make that his place of residence the rest of his life, his death occurring there in May, 1910. He was an excellent farmer and as he prospered he added to his holdings until he became the owner of eighteen hundred and eighty acres of land and was accounted one of the best-circumstanced men in this part of the state. He had an admirable farm plant, in full keeping with his extensive operations, one of the features of which was a grain elevator of his own. Mr. Krabbenhoft's widow is still living on the old home place. She also was born in Germany, in 1856, Mary Jenson, and has been a resident of this country since 1867. She has nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Mamie, wife of John Connelly, of Glyndon township, Clay county; Richard, who is managing the home farm; Cora, wife of Fred Kuehl, of Glyndon township; Helen, wife of William Wusson, of Moland township, and Carl, Otto, Edna and Stella, at home.

Ernest F. Krabbenhoft was reared on the home farm in Elmwood township and received his schooling in the schools of that neighborhood. As the eldest son of his father he from the days of his boyhood was a valued aid in the development of the extensive interests created by his father in connection with the big farm and remained at home until his marriage in the fall of 1910, when he established his home on the farm on which he is now living, in Elmwood township, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Krabbenhoft has a fine farm of four hundred and sixty acres, on which he has made excellent improvements, including a handsome, modern house electrically lighted and otherwise equipped for the best comfort and convenience of the family. Mr. Krabbenhoft carries on his farming operations in accordance with up-to-date methods and is doing very well. He has for some time given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and is now serving as chairman of the board of supervisors of Elmwood township, to the duties of which important office he gives his most thoughtful and intelligent attention.

On November 9, 1910, Ernest F. Krabbenhoft was united in marriage to Rosalie Schroeder, daughter of Frank Schroeder and wife, and to this union one child has been born, a son, Ernest Frederick, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Krabbenhoft take a proper part in the general social affairs of the community in which they live and give their thoughtful attention to all matters having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout. In

the Schroeder family there are twelve children: Minnie, Frank, Emil, Clara, Rosalie, Christine, Otto, Henry, Herbert, Walter, Hulda and Margaret, all of whom are all living in Clay county. Minnie is the wife of H. G. Wendland, postmaster at Sabin. Clara is the wife of Chris Legler, living on a farm. Henry married Ella Miller and lives near Moorhead.

ISAAC JONES.

Isaac Jones, a well-known grain buyer of Baker, in the southern part of Clay county, was born in Jackson county, Iowa, January 30, 1872. He is a son of William and Rowena Jones, the father a native of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, and the mother, of Jackson county, Iowa. William Jones spent his boyhood in his native county in the old Keystone state and there attended the public schools. When a young man he came West, locating in Jackson county, Iowa, where he engaged in farming until 1880, in which year he came to Minnesota, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Clay county, and tree-claimed one hundred and sixty acres also, in Elmwood township. He worked hard clearing and developing his land, but by perseverance he made a good home and there he followed general farming until about 1897, when he rented his land out and retired from active life, moving to the village of Baker. He subsequently sold his farm to R. N. Lewis. He had been quite successful during the last years of his active life as a farmer and stock raiser. He spent his last days in Baker, his death occurring there in July, 1915. He was a member of the German Lutheran church, and his wife was a Presbyterian. To these parents four children were born, namely: Mary, the wife of J. H. Wright; Hettie, wife of A. C. Duke; Isaac, the subject of this sketch, and Hannah, who is the youngest child.

Isaac Jones grew to manhood in Jackson county, Iowa, and in Elmwood township, Clay county, Minnesota. He attended school in both, and later attended the high school at Barnesville. He grew up on his father's farm and assisted with the general work, remaining with his father on the farm until he was about twenty-seven years old, when he started farming for himself in Elmwood township, continuing successfully thus engaged until 1910, when he moved to Baker and for four years was manager of the local affairs of the Anchor Grain Company. Since 1914 he has been buying grain for the Red River Seed and Produce Company, and is accounted one

of the best-known grain buyers in this section of the state and one of the best-informed men in his line. His work in connection with these two companies has been entirely satisfactory to the stockholders and all concerned.

On January 25, 1899, Mr. Jones was married to Ella Lafayette, who was born in Iowa and was educated in the public schools. She is a daughter of James and Elizabeth Lafayette, the former of whom was born at St. Charles, Illinois, and the latter, at Ironton, Ohio. James Lafayette was a carpenter. He died in June, 1914, at Plummer, Minnesota, at the age of eighty-four. His widow, who is seventy-eight years of age, is living with her daughter, Mrs. Jones. To Mr. and Mrs. Jones two children have been born, Hettie and Clarence. Mr. Jones is a Democrat, but he has never been very active in public affairs. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic Order and to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

ALBERT H. JOHNSON.

Albert H. Johnson, a farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, was born on his father's homestead in Highland Grove township, Clay county, May 6, 1882. He is a son of Henry and Betsey (Jensen) Johnson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in the early fifties, the parents of each accompanying them. They all settled in Wineshiek county, Iowa, and there the parents of each spent the rest of their lives and died. Henry Johnson came to Minnesota, in 1876, accompanying a big train of wagons to Moorhead, the overland journey requiring three weeks. He located on a farm in Highland Grove township, Clay county, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 18, where he developed a farm on which he made his home until 1907, when he moved to the farm on which his son, Albert H., now lives, in Cromwell township. He became one of the leading public men in Clay county, and was very active in politics. He was a delegate to county, state and national conventions of the Republican party. During the Civil War he served in Company G, Twelfth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was a member of the township board in Highland Grove township for many years. He helped organize the creamery at Hitterdal, also the one at Hawley, and was president of the former for some time. He helped organize the United Lutheran church at Hitterdal. His family consisted

of the following children: Ellen (deceased), Christina, Theodore, Hannah (deceased), Matilda (deceased), and Albert H.

Albert H. Johnson grew to manhood on the farm and was educated in the common schools. He remained with his father and helped him with the general work on the farm and now operates the home place of one hundred and sixty acres in Cromwell township. The place was well improved by his father, who erected substantial buildings and brought a productive farm up from the wild prairie sod.

In the fall of 1914 Albert H. Johnson was married to Tilda Hillestad, who was born in Cromwell township, Clay county, where she grew up and attended school. She is a daughter of John O. Hillestad, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson two children have been born, namely: Gundru and Kaakon. Mr. Johnson is a Republican and has been a member of the school board in his district and has also served as justice of the peace in a very able and satisfactory manner.

ANDREW O. HOUGLUM.

Andrew O. Houghlum, auditor of Clay county and one of the best-known residents of the city of Moorhead, was born in the neighboring county of Becker and has been a resident of Minnesota all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Lake Park township, Becker county, April 19, 1875, son of Ole A. and Ragnhild (Sande) Houghlum, natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota about 1867 and located in Goodhue county, whence, in 1871, they came over to this part of the state and settled on a homestead farm in Lake Park township, Becker county, among the first settlers of that part of the county, and there established their home. Ole A. Houghlum spent his last days on that homestead farm and after his death his widow moved to the village of Lake Park, where her last days were spent.

Reared on the homestead farm on which he was born, Andrew O. Houghlum completed his schooling in the high school at Lake Park and for two years taught school in his home county. He then entered a business college at Minneapolis and was graduated from the same in 1897, after which for a short time he was engaged as a clerk in a store at Minneapolis. He then returned to Lake Park, where he was engaged as a bookkeeper for three years, at the end of which time he was appointed to

the position of deputy auditor of Clay county and moved to Moorhead, where he since has made his home. For eight years Mr. Houghlum occupied the position of deputy county auditor and during that time made such an admirable record for public service that he was elected county auditor and has since been retained in that office by the people of the county, his successive elections never having been contested. In addition to his official connection Mr. Houghlum also has an interest in the Houghlum Furniture Company, of Moorhead, and is a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club. He has for years given close attention to the affairs of the County Auditors Association of this state, was formerly treasurer of the same and is now a member of the committee of that association engaged in the labor of codifying and revising the laws relating to drainage. Mr. Houghlum from the days of his youth has enjoyed singing, is an active member of the Norrona Singing Society, of which for two years he was president, and is vice-president of the Scandinavian Singers Association of the Red River Valley. He is a member of the local lodges of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Royal Arcanum. He is now in the military service of the United States, having first served as one of the three members of the registration board for Clay county, and is now a commissioned member of the local board for said county in connection with the military draft.

In 1905 Andrew O. Houghlum was united in marriage to Sophia Ebeltoft, daughter of Peter Ebeltoft and wife, of Lake Park, and to this union four children have been born, Celest, who died at the age of four years, and Muryel, Virgie and Audrey. Mr. and Mrs. Houghlum are members of the United Lutheran church.

OLAUS OLSON.

The viewpoint of the twentieth-century farmer has changed greatly with his increased knowledge and he has discarded many of the early-day methods of tilling the soil. One thing he has learned to bear in mind is that it is often quite as important to do a thing at the right time as it is to do it at all. One of the careful farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, is Olaus Olson, who was born in Detroit township, Becker county, Minnesota, December 13, 1872.

Mr. Olson is a son of Ole D. and Ragna (Ingebrihtsdatter) Olson,

both natives of Hallingdale, Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and continued to reside until in May, 1872, the father proceeding directly to Becker county, Minnesota, but the mother spent a few months in St. Paul before joining him there. His brother, Christ Olson, preceded him to Becker county by five years. Christ is now a resident of Lake Park. Ole D. Olson took up a homestead in section 8, Cuba township, Becker county, in 1873 and there he has since made his home. His wife died on the homestead there, January 14, 1916. He has developed an excellent farm from the wild prairie, planting a large grove and erecting a substantial group of buildings. He now owns three hundred and twenty acres. He formerly owned more, but sold one hundred acres some time ago. He has been one of the leading men of his township. He helped organize the school district in which he lives and served as treasurer of the same from its organization in 1882 until 1911. He also helped organize the Conference congregation (Lutheran) of Cuba township and was treasurer of the same from the time of its organization for many years. Later he affiliated with the United Lutheran church. To Ole D. Olson and wife nine children were born, namely: Olaus, Edolph, Mary, Carl, Minnie (deceased), John (deceased), Minnie (second), John and Julia.

Olaus Olson grew to manhood on the home farm in Becker county, working on the farm during the crop seasons. He attended the district schools of his home community and also attended school at Lake Park and at Detroit, Minnesota. He remained at home until he was twenty-two years old, when he began farming for himself on rented land in his native county and later bought eighty acres in Cuba township, Becker county. He continued general farming there until 1901, when he moved to Highland Grove township, Clay county, buying one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, which he has developed into a good farm and on which he still makes his home. He planted a large grove and erected good buildings, and has met with encouraging success as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Olson assisted in organizing the Hitterdal Farmers Co-operative Creamery, and was a member of the board of directors of the same from the second year of its organization until 1917. He has been financially interested in the company from the start.

On October 19, 1901, Mr. Olson was married to Gundhild Midtdahl, a native of Norway and a daughter of Jorgen and Chestine (Moen) Midtdahl, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, immigrating to America in 1881, locating in Highland Grove township, Clay county, where they took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres

and there they still reside. Their family consists of five children, Lewis, John, Gundhild, Sarah and Lena. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson, namely: Ole, Clara, Gladys (deceased), and Gladys (second). Mr. Olson and family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church. Politically, he is independent.

AUGUST CEDERBERG.

A farmer when he has raised his crop has performed only half his duty; the other half is in selling, which determines his profit for the year's work. It is just as important for the agricultural producer to know what the markets are as it is for the lumberman, the ore producer or the manufacturer to know what his goods are worth in the market and what competition he must meet in his selling. One of the farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, who understands both the production and sale of his crops is August Cederberg, and therefore he has been successful.

Mr. Cederberg was born in Sweden on November 9, 1857, and was one of five children born to his parents. These parents spent all their lives in their native land. August Cederberg grew to manhood in his native land and there attended the common schools. As a young man he worked on the farm until immigrating to America in 1882. He located in Meeker county, Minnesota, but remained there only six months, then moved to Hawley, Clay county, and worked on the Northern Pacific railroad as a section laborer, being boss of the section gang part of the time. He saved his earnings and finally bought eighty acres in section 32, Highland Grove township, which he improved and farmed so successfully that he was subsequently enabled to buy three "forties" in section 5, Eglon township. He is now owner of two hundred acres of excellent and well-improved land in Highland Grove township, having made all the improvements himself. His fields are well fenced and his land well tilled. He has a cosy dwelling and convenient outbuildings. In connection with general farming he raises graded stock, making a specialty of Shorthorn cattle. Besides the grains adapted to this latitude he raises several acres of potatoes each year.

Mr. Cederberg was married to Anna Anderson, in Sweden on March 25, 1882, shortly before his departure for the New World. She was born in 1858 in Sweden, of which country her parents were natives, and there she grew to womanhood and was educated in Sweden. Ten children have

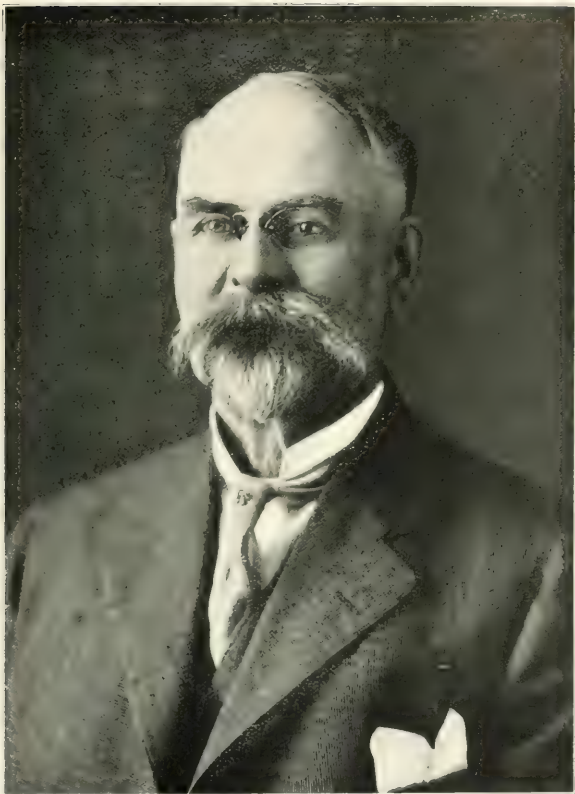
been born to this union, namely: Gusta, Emma, Oscar and Anna, who are all married; Ella, who lives in Fargo; Sarah, who is deceased, and Olga, Victor, Ida and George, who are at home.

Politically, Mr. Cederberg is independent. He served at one time as road supervisor of his district, and he has been a director on the local school board for the past nine years. He is a member of the Mission church. He is a public-spirited man, always interested in the affairs of his township and ready to do his part in furthering any worthy movement, and he is popular with the people of his locality, being helpful, neighborly and companionable.

WILLIAM RIPLEY TILLOTSON.

William Ripley Tillotson, one of the oldest and best-known lawyers in this part of Minnesota, former mayor of the city of Moorhead and for years a member of the school board in that city, secretary and treasurer and one of the organizers of the National Loan and Improvement Company at Moorhead and in other ways actively identified with the interests of the city of which he has been a resident since its village days, is a native of the old Granite state, but has been a resident of Minnesota for more than thirty-five years and is thus thoroughly identified with the citizenship of the great Northwest. He was born at Bath, in Grafton county, New Hampshire, April 22, 1856, son of Bradley P. Tillotson, a farmer, and in his youth was familiar with the labors of the farm.

Mr. Tillotson obtained an ample educational equipment for the exacting profession to which he early devoted himself. Upon completing the course in the common schools of his home town he entered Dartmouth College and was graduated from the academic department of that excellent old institution in 1877, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Following his admission to practice law, Mr. Tillotson remained for a while in the East, but presently he became attracted to the great possibilities then opening to the earnest settler in the Northwest and in 1882 came out to this part of Minnesota and became a member of the firm of Burnham, Mills & Tillotson, entering upon the practice of his profession at Moorhead, then little more than a lively frontier station, but giving promise of becoming one of the chief cities in the then rapidly developing Northwest, and has ever since made his home in that city. On January 1, 1886, the firm became Burnham & Tillotson and so continued until 1898, when Mr. Burnham died. As one



WILLIAM R. THILOTSOY.

of the pioneer lawyers of this part of Minnesota, Mr. Tillotson has a wide acquaintance throughout this part of the country and has done much to aid in the development of the region to which he became attracted more than thirty-five years ago. Twice he was elected mayor of Moorhead and while serving in that important capacity did much to advance the interests of his home town. For many years he has been a member of the local school board and no one has done more to promote the development of the school system in Moorhead than he. He also for several terms served as a member of the library board of the city and in other ways has done his part as a good citizen in advancing the general cultural activities of the city. Mr. Tillotson was one of the organizers of the National Loan and Improvement Company of Moorhead, which was established in 1911, and has been secretary and treasurer of the same ever since its organization.

On April 19, 1888, William R. Tillotson was united in marriage to Harriet C. Tanner, of Moorhead, and to this union two children have been born, Bradley P. and Francis M. Mr. Tillotson is a member of the Catholic church and his family are affiliated with the Episcopal church. He is a member of the local council of the Knights of Columbus and in the affairs of that organization takes a warm interest.

OSCAR GUNDERSON.

The Gunderson family has long been well and favorably known in Clay county, being progressive and law-abiding citizens. Oscar Gunderson, a farmer of Highland Grove township, was born on the farm on which he still resides, July 8, 1877. He is a son of Olaf and Marie (Olson) Gunderson, the father a native of Sweden and the mother of Norway. The paternal grandparents were natives of Sweden, where they spent their lives on a farm. Andrew and Karen Olson, the maternal grandparents, were both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America about 1872, locating at Decorah, Iowa, where they spent about six years; then came to Highland Grove township, Clay county, Minnesota, Andrew Olson and Olaf Gunderson making the overland trip here at the same time, driving through in prairie schooners, but their families came by railway train. Mr. Gunderson took up a homestead in the northwest quarter of section 28, Highland Grove township—the place where his son, Oscar, now resides.

Andrew Olson located on the northeast quarter of section 28, and there he spent the rest of his life, having made an excellent farm of the place. His widow spent her last years at the home of Olaf Gunderson.

Olaf Gunderson, father of the gentleman whose name forms the caption of this sketch, grew to manhood in Sweden, but was married in Norway. In 1874 he came to Decorah, Iowa, where he lived two years, coming to Clay county, Minnesota, in 1876, as noted in the preceding paragraph. He developed his homestead into an excellent farm, putting on a substantial group of buildings, and finally adding one hundred and sixty acres more to his original holdings. He carried on general farming and stock raising very successfully and became one of the leading men of his township. His family consisted of six children, namely: Carl, Andrew and Anna, who are now deceased; Oscar, the subject of this sketch, and Clarence and Gilbert. The father of these children and Andrew Olson, his father-in-law, helped establish the United Lutheran church at Hitterdal. Mr. Gunderson was also active in the organization of the local school district and was a member of the first school board, continuing a member of the same until his death. He was, at different times, a member of the township board.

Oscar Gunderson grew to manhood on the home farm. He attended the local district schools and Concordia College, spending several terms at the latter. He has always lived on the home place, which he has kept well-improved and well-cultivated. He owns two hundred acres, and in connection with general farming he makes a specialty of dairying, handling Holstein cattle.

On February 21, 1902, Oscar Gunderson was married to Annie Sanden, who was born in Eglon township, Clay county, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of John and Saralisa (Johnson) Sanden, both natives of Sweden, from which country they came to America, single, and were married in Moorhead, Minnesota. The parents of each lived and died in Sweden. John Sanden was about twenty-one years old when he came to America, about the year 1866. His wife came about a year later, being eighteen years old at the time. She came directly to Lake Park, Minnesota. He stopped a while at Superior, Michigan, and at Duluth, Minnesota, before coming on to Clay county. Here he took up a homestead in Eglon township, which he improved into a good farm on which he still resides. His wife is deceased. To these parents seven children were born, all living at this writing but one, namely: Annie, Andrew, Hulda, Carl, Carl Johan (deceased), Oscar and Ellen. To Oscar Gunderson and wife seven children have been born, namely:

Laura, Herbert, John P. (deceased), Clarence, Ray, Lillian, Mabel and Clifford.

Politically, Oscar Gunderson is independent. He is now (1917) serving his eleventh consecutive year as township assessor. He has also served as school director and as treasurer for the past twelve or thirteen years, being treasurer at this writing. He was also justice of the peace at one time. He helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Hawley, of which he has been secretary since its organization, and is a heavy stockholder in the same. He also helped organize the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Hawley and has been financially interested in the same ever since. He is a member of the Hawley Live Stock Shipping Association. Like his father before him he is one of the influential men of his township, always ready to assist in any movement having for its object the general good of all the people in this locality.

HILBERT O. SKREI.

Hilbert O. Skrei, a well-known and energetic farmer of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, owner of a compact and well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, that township, and of eighty acres in Montana, is a native son of Minnesota, born on his father's homestead on Buffalo river, August 28, 1875. He is the son of Torge T. and Gunhild (Bervie) Skrei, natives of Norway.

Torge T. Skrei was married in his native land and immigrated to the United States in 1866. On arriving in this country he proceeded to Houston county, this state, in which place he lived for four years. Some time later he came to Clay county, where he homesteaded a tract of land in section 28, Moland township, and there spent the rest of his life. He died in 1895 and his widow died in 1908. They were the parents of three children, Signa, Hilbert O. and Theodore H. A review of the life of the latter appears on another page of this volume and in it are given further and extended details of the history of the Skrei family in this state.

Hilbert O. Skrei was educated in the schools of Clay county and later worked on his father's farm, where he was well trained in the rudiments of agriculture. In April, 1917, he became the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 22, Goose Prairie township, and is now engaged in general farming and contemplates adding blooded stock at an

early date. He raises wheat, corn, oats, rye and potatoes on the home farm, and since the commencement of his operations he has met with a commendable measure of success. Mr. Skrei is also the owner of eighty acres in Montana. He lived on the old place near Glyndon before taking over his present holding.

In June, 1916, Hilbert O. Skrei was united in marriage to Emelia Demison, who was born in August, 1878. The marriage took place in Glendine, Montana. Mr. Skrei is a member of the Lutheran church and is earnestly interested in all its good works, and he and his wife participate in the social and cultural activities of the neighborhood in which they live, ever ready to assist in all movements tending to the welfare of the community.

GEORGE S. BARNES.

The success which George S. Barnes attained would alone entitle him to special mention in a work of this character as one of the really prominent men of Clay county and of the state of Minnesota; but in citizenship as well he did that which causes his name to be honored, for his labors were a factor in promoting the growth and development of the great Northwest. The real up-builders of a county, state or nation, are not those who handle the reins of government, but those who give their influence to continuous municipal progress, and who found, promote and control extensive business interests. Laudable ambition, ready adaptability to every contingency, and a capacity for hard work are and were essential elements of success, especially in the early pioneer days, and in none of these elements was George S. Barnes lacking. It, therefore, is not a matter of marvel that he occupied a pre-eminent position among the builders of Clay county and the state. The eminence to which he attained was also due to the fact that he had the ability to recognize the opportune moment and to correctly appraise the value of a situation and determine its possibilities.

In the passing of George S. Barnes it is well for us to stop in the midst of the stress, hurry and turmoil that go to make up life as we live it—to consider the character of one who has quit the scene, to estimate his plan of life and to draw from it more clearly than we possibly could from mere theories a conclusion as to what makes this life of ours worth living; and we who step aside from the quick march of our daily duties to do honor to the memory of the subject of this review will at the same

time pay tribute to a life whose theory and practice went hand in hand. This theory of life was the simple but difficult one that duty to God, neighbor, and self are one and the same, and the record of his long, busy years shows not only the discharge of that duty, but a force and serenity that could only come from a nature as gentle as it was strong, joined to a conscience as sensitive as it was tireless. The community knows only in part of his public spirit, his liberality where any measures for the public good were concerned. All who were associated with him in business or financial matters recognized his absolute integrity as well as his fairness. His was the sympathy of real wisdom, the gentleness of true force, the full value of a life well lived from day to day.

George S. Barnes was born in Vermont in 1840, a son of Philo Barnes, who died when George S. was a young man. The family had long resided in New England. The subject of this review grew to manhood in Vermont, and attended the public schools, and there he resided until 1864, when he came to Ononoco, Minnesota, and bought a farm in Olmsted county, on which he resided until 1871, when he sold out and moved to Clay county, and in partnership with L. H. Tenney bought a farm near where the village of Glyndon now stands. His widow now resides on the original farm. He and Mr. Tenney increased their farming interests until they operated about five thousand acres, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale and with pronounced success all along the line. Neither of them resided on their land, but made their homes in Glyndon, where they opened a general store, the first store in the village, and they also bought and sold grain in large quantities.

After the death of Mr. Tenney, a Mr. Bangs became a partner with Mr. Barnes in the grain business. Mr. Barnes became associated with the Northern Pacific Grain Company, of which he was later president, in which capacity he had charge of the elevators along the Northern Pacific railroad all the way from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Tacoma, Washington, thus becoming one of the best-known grain buyers of the great Northwest. Mr. Barnes made his home at Glyndon until 1883, when he moved to Fargo, North Dakota, where he spent practically all of his life thereafter. However, he was living at Glyndon at the time of his death, which occurred on November 28, 1912.

On June 19, 1864, Mr. Barnes was married to Maria L. Paige, a native of Vermont, where she grew to womanhood and was educated and where her family had long been well and favorably known. She is the

mother of three children, namely: George S., Jr., Hector G. and Marie, wife of Otto J. Morrow.

Mr. Barnes was a thirty-third degree Mason and was prominent in the affairs of that order; in fact, few men in this state ever attained to such a high position in this ancient order. He was an active member of the Congregational church. Politically, he was a Republican.

Such, in brief, is the life history of George S. Barnes. While America is the home of the self-made man, it is not so usual for an individual to advance from a humble position to one of marked prominence—and such a course always awakens admiration and interest. Such was the life record of Mr. Barnes, and there was not a single esoteric phase in his career, his life ever being an open book. Diligent in business, he was also loyal in citizenship and faithful in friendship—while in his home he was a devoted husband and father.

JOHN ELOF CARLSON

That period following the close of the Civil War, covering two or three decades, was characterized by the immigration of the pioneer element which made the great state of Minnesota what it is today. These home-seekers were sturdy, heroic, sincere, and for the most part, upright and law-abiding people, such as constitute the strength of the commonwealth. One of this sterling type of citizens is John Elof Carlson, a farmer of Highland Grove township, Clay county.

Mr. Carlson was born in Sweden, October 24, 1857. He is a son of Magnus and Lena Carlson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home, but immigrated to America in 1860, when their son, John E., was twelve years old. The family located at Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois, but a year and a half later removed to Minnesota, locating near Brainard, where the father worked at construction work on the Northern Pacific. On April 2, 1871, he arrived at Lake Park, Becker county, and soon thereafter took up a homestead five miles northwest of the village of Lake Park, in Cuba township. There he developed a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres, putting the wild prairie land under cultivation, erecting a group of suitable farm buildings and planting a grove. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, influential factors among the other pioneer settlers in this locality. The

father helped organize Cuba township about five years after he located there. He also helped organize the Eskjou Swedish Lutheran church of that township, and later was one of the organizers of the Swedish Grove Lutheran church. He was a successful farmer and a good citizen in every respect, having the respect and good will of all who knew him. Six children were born to Carl M. and Lena Carlson, named as follow: Frank, who makes his home at Lake Park, Becker county; Emma, deceased; Hanna, deceased; John Elof, the subject of this sketch; Carl W., who lives at Lake Park, and Axel, who is deceased.

John E. Carlson spent his childhood in Sweden, where he attended school a while. He had little opportunity to obtain an education after coming to Minnesota, for there were no schools in Becker county to which the children of the first settlers could go. However, by close observation and home reading and study he became, in due course of time, a very well-informed man. He assisted his father with the general work on the homestead, for there was plenty of hard work for the entire family. He continued to work with his father until 1880, when he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Highland Grove township, Clay county, where he has since resided—a period of thirty-seven years, during which he has seen the country developed from a vast, wild prairie to a fine farming locality, dotted with attractive homes, numerous churches and school houses, and has played well his part in this transformation. He brought his land up to a high state of cultivation and improvement, setting out a large grove and erecting an excellent group of buildings, suitable to the needs of a thrifty farmer in this latitude. His farm is well located at Manitoba Junction and he has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

On July 5, 1886, Mr. Carlson was married to Caroline Johnson, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Anton Johnson Hauger, one of the early homesteaders of Highland Grove township, Clay county, Minnesota, where he still resides. A sketch of Mr. Hauger and family will be found on another page of this volume. Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, named as follow: Lena, Josie, Manda, Jennie, who married Edward Eastman, who died in 1913, leaving two children, Edward, Jr., and Margaret, Mrs. Eastman and children now making their home with the subject of this sketch; Anna, the fifth in order of birth; Emma, Carl, Arthur, a daughter who died in infancy, unnamed, and Lillian and Roy.

Mr. Carlson helped organize Highland Grove township, also the school district in which he lives. He is now (1917) serving his second year as a

member of the school board. He belongs to the Swedish Grove Lutheran church. Politically, he is independent. He has always been a helpful man in his township, doing much for its general development.

ALONZO WILSON, M. D.

Among the real old settlers of Clay county there are few who have a wider acquaintance throughout this section of the Red River valley than has Dr. Alonzo Wilson, a well-to-do retired physician, of Moorhead, and an honored veteran of the Civil War, who has been a resident of Moorhead since the year 1876 and who has consequently been a witness to and a participant in the development of this region since pioneer days. Doctor Wilson is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty years of age. He was born in the year 1834, a son of O. L. Wilson and wife, the latter of whom died on board vessel on the way to this country in 1854 and the former of whom later became a resident of Clay county and here spent his last days, his death occurring in 1901.

O. L. Wilson was a small landowner in his native Sweden and he and his wife were the parents of five children. In 1854 he sold his farm and with his family sailed for the United States. During the voyage an epidemic of disease broke out among the passengers and Mrs. Wilson and one of the sons and two of the daughters died and were buried at sea. Mr. Wilson and his two remaining sons, the subject of this sketch and the latter's younger brother, Peter Wilson, proceeded to Chicago upon their arrival at port and during the first winter of their residence in this country were engaged working in a wood yard in that city. The father and his younger son remained in that city for a year or two, but the elder son left in the spring following his arrival for the Northwest and has ever since been a resident of Minnesota. After his son, Doctor Wilson, had become established at Moorhead, O. L. Wilson joined him here and his last days were spent on one of the Doctor's farms, his death occurring sixteen years ago.

Peter Wilson, who died some years ago, was one of the pioneers of Clay county and was for years one of the best-known and most influential residents of this county. Upon leaving Chicago he came up into the Northwest and was a resident of the Red River valley when Clay county was organized



Alonzo Wilson M.D.

in 1872 and, with Andrew Holes, was appointed by Governor Austin as one of the two commissioners to set in motion the wheels of government in the new county, as set out in the historical volume of this work. Before coming up here Peter Wilson had served as a soldier of the Union, a member of the Fourth Wisconsin Cavalry, and with that gallant command served for two years and six months, at the end of which time he was honorably discharged on a certificate of disability, he having suffered severe injuries when a horse fell on him. In addition to having been one of the earliest settlers of Clay county and one of the original commissioners of this county, Peter Wilson also served for some time as justice of the peace, also as register of deeds and for three terms was auditor of the county, in all of his public service rendering a faithful account of his duty to the people. For years he was engaged in the hardware business at Moorhead, but later moved across the river to Fargo. He left four daughters, Mrs. William B. Bartlett, wife of an attorney at Minneapolis; Mrs. Ross, a widow, living at Los Angeles, California, and two living at Cannon Falls, this state, these nieces being the only kinsfolk Doctor Wilson has in this country.

As noted above, Doctor Wilson was about twenty years of age when he came to this country in 1854. He had received an excellent education in his native land, completing his studies in the University of Lund, and had been engaged for a time there in teaching school. The first winter of his residence in this country was spent in Chicago and then, in the spring of 1855, he struck out for the Northwest and found employment in a lumber camp on the St. Croix river. In the spring of 1856 he went from Taylors Falls to Superior City and there became employed as an agent to help retain land claims, at the same time locating something more than a quarter of a section of land in his own behalf. During the winter of 1856-57 he and three others formed a partnership in the lumber business and from the fall of 1857 to the fall of 1861 he was engaged in contract work, building wagon roads through the timber. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted for service in the Union army, going out from Ft. Snelling with Company K, Fifth Iowa Cavalry, and was in active service for three years, the last year of his service being spent in the Red River country fighting Indians.

Upon the completion of his military service Doctor Wilson went to Wisconsin and seriously entered upon a design he long had cherished, that of the study of medicine, and after some preliminary study under the preceptorship of local physicians entered the Medical College at Keokuk and was graduated from that institution in 1870. Upon receiving his diploma, Doctor Wilson opened an office for the practice of his profession at Keokuk

and remained there until 1876, in which year he rejoined his brother Peter at Moorhead and opened an office for the practice of his profession in that city, continuing actively engaged in practice until his retirement. Upon coming up here in 1876 Doctor Wilson homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in Oakport township, Clay county, at the same time taking a tree claim to an adjoining quarter section. He later added to his land holdings and at one time was the owner of no less than a thousand acres of land, all of which, however, he has closed out and is not now a landowner. Doctor Wilson is quite comfortably situated at Moorhead. Though now past eighty-three years of age, he retains much of his former physical vigor and continues to take a hearty interest in current affairs. As one of the pioneers of Clay county, the Doctor has seen the development of this region from its primitive state to its present state of substantial development. His memory of the early days hereabout is clear and distinct and he has long been regarded as one of the ablest and most accurate authorities on the history of this section of the famed Red River valley.

Some time after locating at Moorhead Doctor Wilson married Ida Broberg, who died at the age of forty years. The Doctor has no children.

STEN HANSON.

It is scarcely probable that in the future of the American republic another such period can occur when such a solid phalanx of strong-armed men and self-sacrificing women will take possession of a new country, displaying the courage and perseverance of the pioneer element that invaded the plains of Minnesota some four or five decades ago. One of this number is Sten Hanson, a venerable farmer of Highland Grove township, Clay county.

Mr. Hanson was born in Sweden, February 7, 1838, and is, therefore, now in his seventy-eighth year. He is a son of Hans and Sigrid (Pehrslatter) Stenson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up and married and where the father's death occurred, after which the widow brought her children to America in 1868. After spending two years in Winneshiek county, Iowa, they all came to Clay county, Minnesota, driving an ox-team to a covered wagon, in 1870, the trip requiring over a month in the early summer of that year. The family located in Highland Grove township. The country was but a wild prairie and had not yet been surveyed. The

family located in what is now section 11, where the subject of this sketch now lives, having resided here ever since, a period of forty-seven years, and he is, therefore, one of the oldest pioneers in the county. Here his mother died in 1884. She had five children, namely: Gertrude and Anna, twins, the former of whom is deceased; Sten, the subject of this sketch, and Peder and Hans. This family helped start the first church in Clay county, which was a Norwegian church, and later helped organize the Swedish Grove Lutheran church, which is near the old homestead and to which the family still belong.

Sten Hanson was thirty years old when he came to America. He has devoted his active life successfully to farming and has accumulated two hundred and sixty acres, only eighty acres of which is a part of the original homestead, buying the rest as railroad land. He has erected an excellent group of farm buildings and early set out a magnificent grove. Being advanced in years he has not engaged actively in farming for many years.

On June 24, 1866, in Sweden, Mr. Hanson was married to Ringnel Swenson, who was born and reared in Sweden. To this marriage ten children were born, all in America but one—the eldest. They were named as follows: Hans S., Sven S., Severt (deceased), Caroline, Anna (deceased), Christine (deceased), Lewis, who is living, and Olaf, Severt and Sven, deceased.

Sten Hanson helped organize Highland Grove township and later held township offices. He also assisted in organizing his school district and was treasurer of the same for many years. Politically, he is independent. He has always been regarded as an industrious and useful citizen.

Anton Johnson, son-in-law of the subject of this sketch, was born in Sweden, December 6, 1872. He is a son of Johan and Johannah (Samuelson) Johanson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their permanent home and where the mother is still living, the father dying there some time ago. They were parents of six children, all living at this writing. Anton Johnson grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the common schools. When twenty years old, in 1892, he came to the United States, stopping in Chicago, Illinois, a month; then spent a year and a half at Escanaba, Delta county, Michigan. He then came to Clay county, Minnesota, where he has since made his home. Here he was married on June 29, 1901, to Caroline Hanson, a daughter of Sten Hanson, the immediate subject of this sketch. She was born in Clay county, Minnesota, where she grew to womanhood, and was educated in the public

schools. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, namely Salley, Adolph, Carl, Grace, Henry and Morris.

Mr. Johnson has followed general farming ever since coming to Clay county and is now successfully operating the farm of his father-in-law. Politically, he is independent. He was township supervisor and clerk of the local school board for a period of ten years and discharged his duties in both positions in a highly acceptable manner.

SAAVI T. SNARTLAND.

Saavi T. Snartland is one of the many native-born Norwegians who have come to the United States and to this part of Minnesota and become successful farmers. He was born in Norway on January 22, 1871, a son of Torkel and Gro (Salveson) Snartland, both also natives of Norway and who came to America in 1880 and settled on a farm in Clay county.

Torkel Snartland was born in Norway in 1837, and was educated in the schools of that country. He engaged in the life of a farmer in his native land and at the age of forty-three years he and his family immigrated to this country and came on out to Minnesota and settled in Clay county. Here he resumed his farming operations and about the year 1897, was in a position to purchase land for himself. He is still living on the farm which he then bought and which is located in section 5, Moland township, Clay county. Some years before leaving Norway, Torkel Snartland was united in marriage to Gro Salveson, who was also born in Norway in 1847, and who met a tragic death in 1900, being killed by lightning on her husband's farm. Torkel Snartland and wife were the parents of the following children: Saavi T., owner of a half section of land; Olaf, a general farmer; Mary, now a widow; Gonel, married, and Willa, married. Mrs. Snartland's brother, Halver Salveson, was one of the first settlers in this part of Minnesota.

Saavi Snartland received part of his education in Norway. He came with his parents to this country in 1880 and lived on his father's farm. From boyhood he was an able assistant to his father in the labors of developing and improving the home place. He is now engaged in farming for himself and is the owner of a half section of prime land, on which he is engaged in general farming and has done very well, being regarded as one of the substantial agriculturists of Moland township.

On July 11, 1897, Saavi Snartland was united in marriage to Helen Svenkenson, who was born in Clay county, Minnesota, a daughter of Gun-der Svenkenson and wife, natives of Norway. To Saavi Snartland and wife three children have been born, Thorance, Gladys and Gerard, all living at home with their parents. Mr. Snartland takes a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs and was a director of the district school board for six years. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works.

Olaf T. Snartland was born in Norway in August, 1879, and came to this country with his parents. He is the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of land and is engaged in general farming. All the improvements on his farm were carried out by his father. He was married in 1904 to Lilly Anderson, who was born in Fargo, North Dakota, in 1883. They are the parents of the following children: Anna, Torkel, Jacob, Gertie, and an infant born in 1917. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a general interest in all the affairs of the community calculated to serve the public welfare.

HERMAN W. JOOP.

Herman W. Joop, of Felton township, Clay county, has applied business principles to his farming and has used his mind as well as his brawn. He has therefore met with encouraging success all along the line. He was born in Germany on December 2, 1879. He is a son of Gustav and Tina (Camps) Joop, both born in Germany, where they grew up and married and lived on a farm until in the seventies, when they came to America, locating in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where they lived several years, the father working in the steel mills. They then returned to Germany and remained there a few years, then came to America a second time and located in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where they engaged in farming until 1896, when they moved to Felton township, Clay county, and located on the farm where their son, Herman W., now resides. Here Gustav Joop farmed until his retirement and he now lives with his son, Ludwig, in Norman county. His family consisted of six children, three of whom are still living, namely: Ludwig, Bertha and Herman W.

Herman W. Joop spent his boyhood on the home farm in Blue Earth county and there he attended school. He came to Clay county with his

parents and as a young man took up railroad work as a fireman on the Northern Pacific railroad, running between Fargo and Jamestown, North Dakota. He remained in railroad service until 1907 when he came back to his father's farm, in January of that year, and has since operated it with success, owning one hundred and sixty acres, which he operates in connection with his father's quarter section. He keeps it all under a fine state of cultivation and is making a pronounced success as a general farmer and stock raiser. He raises a large acreage of potatoes each year.

Mr. Joop was married on December 16, 1903, to Clara Parnow, who was born in Germany. She is a daughter of William and Othelia (Bernsdorf) Parnow, both natives of Germany, where they grew up, married and established their home on a farm. Mr. Parnow came to America about 1893, his wife coming later. They located first in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and in 1896, came from there to Clay county and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Felton township, where they lived until 1904, when they moved to a farm east of Thief River Falls, and there they both still reside, owning a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres there, on which they have made extensive improvements, including the erection of good buildings. The following children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Parnow: Selma, Clara, Otto, Paul, William, Oscar, who is in the United States navy; Erma, Alex, who died when seven days old, and Ernest, who died when three years old.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Joop, namely: Walter, who died when three months old, and Myrtle and Elnora. Mr. Joop is independent in his political views. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

ANDREW O. SOLWOLD.

A man's life work is the measure of his success, and he is truly the most successful man who, turning his powers into the channel of an honorable purpose, accomplishes the object of his endeavor. In the study of every man's life we find some mainspring of action, something that he lives for. In Andrew O. Solwold, farmer of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, it seems to have been an ambition to make the best use of his native and acquired powers.

Mr. Solwold was born in Norway on June 26, 1841. He is a son of Olaf P. and Andrea (Eidshaug) Solwold, both natives of Norway, where

they grew to maturity, married and established their home. The father was a farmer, also superintendent of forests for many years. His death occurred in his native land at the age of fifty-eight years. His widow later immigrated to America, in 1881, and spent her last years in Tacoma, Washington, where her death occurred in 1897. She was born in 1816. To these parents the following children were born: Peter, who is engaged in farming in Keene township, Clay county; Andrew O., the subject of this sketch; Olaf, who owns a farm near Tacoma, Washington, it having been at his home that the mother of these children died; Gunder, who also lives near that city; George, who lives in Utah, and Bertena, who died at Tacoma, Washington.

Andrew O. Solwold grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools, completing his schooling at Asker Seminary there. He immigrated to America in 1872 when thirty-one years old. He spent his first year in the New World at Oconomowoc, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, then came to Minnesota, and spent five years teaching school in Fillmore county. He then came to Clay county and took up a homestead near Hawley, in section 12, Cromwell township, and there he developed an excellent farm, making all improvements. He engaged in general farming and stock raising there with success until 1895, when he sold out and moved to his present farm, of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, Goose Prairie township, which his wife owned. He purchased another farm of one hundred and sixty acres in the same section, and later bought forty acres more in that section. He now owns three hundred and sixty acres, comprising one of the best-improved and choicest farms in his township. His wife inherited her farm from her mother. He is making a pronounced success as a farmer and raises large quantities of grain and large numbers of live stock annually. He has made all modern improvements, including the erection of good buildings.

Mr. Solwold was married on the farm where he now resides on December 6, 1884, to Maria Larson, who was born in Lafayette, Wisconsin, November 11, 1858, a daughter of Andrew and Nicoline (Grindvold) Larson, natives of Norway, from which country they came to America, locating in Wisconsin, later coming to Clay county, Minnesota, the father renting land in Goose Prairie township, where he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, the father dying in 1880. The mother was born in 1822 and died in 1903. To Mr. and Mrs. Solwold eight children have been born, namely: Olaf, who was graduated from the State Normal and the Valley City Normal, is a school teacher by profession and lives at

home; Agnes, deceased; Borghild, who is married and lives on the home farm; Alf, who was graduated from the Park Region College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, later taking an advanced course at the State Normal School, and is also a teacher by profession, and Agnes, Ingeborg, Alvilda and Dagmar, who are also engaged in school teaching. They all received excellent educational advantages and are successful teachers.

Politically, Mr. Solwold is independent. While living in Cromwell township he served as township clerk. He has also served as chairman of the township board in Goose Prairie township, also as supervisor of the latter, and was clerk of school district No. 95 for a period of twenty years. He is a member of the Lutheran church, in which he is a deacon. He was also a deacon of the church of this denomination in his early days in Fillmore county. He is a well-informed man, having been a student and a wide reader, as well as a close observer, all his life and is well posted on current events, one of the leaders of public affairs in this locality.

PETER A. PETERSON.

Peter A. Peterson, who for more than twenty years has held the important office of sheriff of Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has lived in Minnesota since he was ten years of age and in Norman county since he was twenty-five, he having been a homesteader here back in pioneer days. He was born in 1857, son of Andrew and Bertha Maria (Hanson) Peterson, both natives of Norway and the former of whom died there when the subject of this sketch was nine years of age. The widow and her two sons, Peter and Anton, a short time afterward, in 1867, came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Freeborn county, where the Widow Peterson presently married Sterner Hanson and where she spent the remainder of her life, her death occurring in 1897. Her husband died a few years prior to that date. Her younger son, Anton Peterson, two years younger than his brother, Peter, is now living in Santa Cruz, California.

As noted above, Peter A. Peterson was about ten years of age when he came with his mother to this state and located in Freeborn county. There he completed his schooling and early began work on a farm, becoming an excellent farmer. During the last two years of his residence in that county Mr. Peterson owned a horse-power threshing-rig, which he operated with



MRS. AND MRS. PETER A. PETERSON.

much success throughout the neighborhood in which he lived. In 1879 Mr. Peterson married and in 1882 he and his wife drove over to this part of the state, bringing through some essential household articles, four horses and several cattle, the trip requiring twenty-three days. Upon his arrival here Mr. Peterson homesteaded a quarter section of land in section 10 of Strand township, Norman county, and there established his home, putting up a comfortable house and adequate farm buildings, and made other improvements on the place. After a while he sold that place to advantage and bought two hundred acres of railroad land in Bear Park township, which he proceeded to improve and on which he made his home until his election to the office of sheriff of Norman county in 1896, when he moved to Ada, where he ever since has made his home, occupant of the sheriff's residence; for he ever since has occupied that office, his manner of conducting the affairs of the sheriff's office having so warmly recommended him to the voters of the county that he has been re-elected at each succeeding election. Sheriff Peterson had had previous public experience before taking up the duties of the sheriff's office, for during his residence in Bear Park township he was chairman of the board of township supervisors all but two years of the time he spent there and during the last two years of his residence there was township assessor. He also was active in the general affairs of the community and helped organize the creamery company at Rindahl, the company that established the first real creamery in Norman county, and until he left the farm remained a member of the board of directors of that company. Not long after locating in Norman county Mr. Peterson bought a horse-power threshing-rig and operated the same for two seasons, at the end of which time he bought the first steam-traction outfit in that section and for years operated the same widely over the four nearby townships, Strand, Sundal, Bear Park and Waukon, his experience as a thresherman, including the time spent at that business in Freeborn county before he came up here, covering twenty-two years. For some years after moving to Ada Sheriff Peterson also owned and operated a livery stable in that city.

In November, 1879, Peter A. Peterson was united in marriage to Helena Thronson, who was born on a pioneer farm in the vicinity of Calmer, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, daughter of Thron and Guri (Helgeson) Thronson, natives of Norway, who had located in Iowa in 1854, and to this union seven children have been born, Mary, who died in infancy, Mary (second), Tillie, Bertha, Elby, Carl and Arthur. Sheriff and Mrs. Peter-

son are members of the Synod Lutheran church and were among the most active factors in the movement that resulted in the erection of a church of that denomination east of Gary.

PETER SANDERS.

The country has many advantages over the city. Likewise, it has its disadvantages—one of the greatest being the lack of opportunity to gain a competence within a reasonable period of time. Many farmers have grown rich through increased valuation of their land; others through carefully husbanding their resources, rigid discipline and economic living and good business ability, oftentimes combined with favorable seasons for their principal products. One of the successful farmers of Felton township, Clay county, is Peter Sanders.

Mr. Sanders was born in Sweden, August 29, 1870. He is a son of Peter and Celia Sanders, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1884, when they came to America, locating at Vasa, Goodhue county, Minnesota, where the father followed the carpenter's trade, which he had learned in the old country when a young man. He and his wife are still living at Vasa, many of the buildings of which town he helped erect during his residence there of over thirty years. Six of the children born to these parents grew to maturity, namely: Peter, Jr., Annie, Matilda, Albertina, John and Alma. Two children died in early life. The parents of these children are members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Peter Sanders was fourteen years old when his parents brought him to America. He attended the public schools in Sweden, also went to school three months after coming to Vasa, Minnesota. He began working out in Goodhue county as a farm hand, remaining there until 1887, when he came to Moorhead, where he worked in a brick yard for four years. During that period he learned the brick-making business thoroughly, but upon leaving Moorhead he turned his attention to farming, which he has continued ever since, in Clay county, and in Felton township since 1909. He operates a half section near the village of Felton, carrying on general farming and stock raising and during the summer months he also operates a hay baler.

Mr. Sanders was married in 1891 to Thresa Brandt, a native of Sweden, from which country she came to America with her parents, Frank G. and

Johanna (Peterson) Brandt, when young. She is the only child. Her parents located in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1879. The father died in Moorhead some time ago, but the mother is making her home with her daughter, Mrs. Thresa Sanders.

Six children have been born to Peter and Thresa Sanders, namely: Hilda, Edith, Carl, Fred, Lillian and Alma. Mr. Sanders and family belong to the Swedish Lutheran church. Politically, he is a Republican. He has been a member of the township board since 1914 and was chosen chairman of the board in 1917.

ANTON JOHNSON HAUGER.

As everyone knows, methods of farming are changing and we are learning many things that the husbandman of half a century ago did not know, or at least did not attach much attention to. A different system of general agriculture has had to be adopted from that used by the pioneers, for conditions have changed in many respects; even the climate and the soil have changed, to say nothing of markets, methods of transportation for the farmer's products and the laws of supply and demand.

One of the careful and thoughtful farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, was the late Anton Johnson Hauger, who was born in Norway, November 24, 1835. He grew to manhood in his native land, attended the common schools and was married there to Karen Christianson, also a native of Norway. They remained in their native land until 1867, when they came to America, by way of Quebec, Canada, proceeding thence to Wisconsin, locating near the town of Boscobel, Grant county, where they spent eight years on a farm. Then they made the long overland journey by team to Clay county, Minnesota, where the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Highland Grove township, which he developed into a good farm, erected suitable buildings and there continued general farming until his death. His wife died at the home of their daughter, Mrs. John E. Carlson, of Highland Grove township, dying while on a visit there. A sketch of Mr. Carlson and family will be found on another page of this work. Mr. Hauger later took up a tree-claim of one hundred and sixty acres just south of his homestead. He was one of the active men of his township. He helped to organize the United Lutheran church at Hitterdal, and was long a member of the official board of the

same. In the early days he also helped organize the Buffalo Lutheran congregation.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hauger six children were born, namely: Carl J., who was born in Christiania, Norway; Christian A., who also first saw the light of day in that city; Olaf E., who was born on the train between Quebec and Montreal, Canada, while the family was en route to the United States from Norway; Caroline A., who married John E. Carlson, a farmer of Clay county, was born in Grant county, Wisconsin; Julia F., who was also born in the last-named county and state, and Hans Martin, who was born in May, 1875, and who died on the homestead at the age of thirteen years. The death of Anton J. Hauger occurred on November 24, 1894.

OTTO L. DAHL.

An enterprising merchant at Felton, Clay county is Otto L. Dahl, who was born at Sparta, Wisconsin, January 18, 1874. He is a son of Lauritz and Thea (Blegen) Dahl, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, immigrating to America in 1865, establishing their future home at Sparta, Wisconsin. There the mother's death occurred in 1877. In 1884 the father removed to Polk county, Minnesota, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Hill River township, which he developed into a good farm through years of hard work and close application and there he still resides. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church. He has only two children, the subject of this sketch having a brother, Oscar J.

Otto L. Dahl grew up in Wisconsin, attended the public schools at Baldwin, that state, and as a young man started clerking in a store at Woodville, his native state. He had a natural inclination to mercantile life and gave eminent satisfaction as a clerk, soon mastering the various ins and outs of the business. He remained there until 1892, when he came to Polk county, Minnesota, and clerked in the store at McIntosh for nine years, his long retention there being sufficient evidence of his faithful and honest work. From 1901 to 1907 he devoted his attention to the picture business, then turned his attention to farming, filing on a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Red Lake county, Minnesota, in 1907, and he lived there until 1910, in which year he built a store and established Roland postoffice, in Red Lake county, remaining there four years, enjoying a very satisfactory

business. He sold out in 1914 and soon thereafter made an extensive trip to Europe, visiting England, Holland, Germany, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Upon his return home he purchased a farm in Polk county, Minnesota, but in the fall of 1914 he came to Felton and has made his home here ever since. He was manager of the Otto Dahl store, owned by his cousin. In January, 1917, he bought a partnership interest in the business and is now manager and resident owner of this popular and successful store. He has everything under a superb system and a large and well selected general stock of goods is carried. A brisk trade is carried on at all seasons with the people of Felton and the surrounding country.

Mr. Dahl was married in 1907 to Anna Broin, who was born in Minnesota and was educated in the public schools. She is a daughter of John and Lena (Quale) Broin, natives of Wisconsin. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dahl, namely: Vernon, Arlie, Orville, Otto, Doris and Llewellyn.

Mr. Dahl was appointed postmaster at Felton in July, 1915, and he has filled that office ever since in an able and creditable manner. Politically, he is a Democrat.

SWAN NELSON.

Swan Nelson, proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Elkton township, Clay county, and one of the most substantial farmers of that part of the county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the year 1881. He was born on January 10, 1857, son of Nels and Cecelia (Swanson) Swanson, both also natives of Sweden, who spent all their lives in their native country, the former dying in 1909 and the latter, in 1910. During the active years of his life Nels Swanson was a coachman. He and his wife were the parents of six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Edith, deceased; Cecelia, who is still making her home in Sweden; Olaf, also a resident of his native land, and August and Mary, deceased. The Swansons were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared in Sweden, Swan Nelson received his schooling there and, in 1877, was married. About four years later, in March, 1881, he came to the United States with his family, his wife's widowed mother accompanying them, and proceeded on out to this part of Minnesota, Hawley being

his destination. For a year after his arrival here Mr. Nelson was engaged working on the farm of Nels Tiesel, in the Hawley neighborhood, and then homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 12 of Elkton township, in Clay county, where he established his home and has ever since resided, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers in that part of the county. Upon taking possession of his homestead tract Mr. Nelson planted a grove and gradually improved his place, putting up good buildings, and as he prospered added to his holdings by the purchase of an additional tract of two hundred and forty acres and now has a fine farm of four hundred acres. Though still making his home on the farm, Mr. Nelson has been practically retired from the active labors of the same for the past six years or more. He has ever taken an interested part in local affairs and for some years past has been serving as treasurer of the school district in which he lives.

Mr. Nelson's wife died in 1906. She also was born in the kingdom of Sweden, Helen Torkelson, and as noted above, her widowed mother, Elena (Johnson) Torkelson, came to this country with her. Mrs. Torkelson ever afterward made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and her last days were spent there. Mr. Nelson has three children, Edith, Theodore and Anna. The family has ever given proper attention to the general social affairs of the community in which they live and have been helpful in many ways in advancing movements designed to promote the common welfare thereabout.

HALVOR OLSON.

A large number of Scandinavians have immigrated to Minnesota where they have found broader opportunities than existed in their native land, and they have been welcomed everywhere for reasons too obvious to mention in detail here. Clay county has been fortunate in securing a large number of these aliens, among whom was the late Halvor Olson, a skillful farmer of Eglon township, who, like others of his countrymen, benefited alike himself and us after casting his lot in this locality, where he was highly esteemed.

Mr. Olson was born in Norway on January 1, 1843. His parents were also natives of that country, where they lived and died on a farm. They were parents of the following children: Ole, who died in Norway; Halvor, the first, who came to America and died in this county; Ton and Tom.

who also died in the United States, and Halvor, the second, subject of this brief review.

Halvor Olson, the subject of this sketch, grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. While living in his native land he engaged in farming. He crossed the Atlantic in 1869 and came to Minnesota, locating in Houston county, where he lived two years, at the end of which time, in 1871, he came up into the Red River country and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 28 of Eglon township, Clay county. The Indians still were numerous hereabout at that time and just about the time Mr. Olson came here a white family was massacred by the redskins. During the spring of his arrival here Mr. Olson was stricken with typhoid fever and notwithstanding the fact that he had to subsist on salt pork, his wonderful constitution pulled him through. He established his home on that homestead farm and there spent the rest of his life, and his widow is still living there. He worked hard developing the place from the wild prairie, and by perseverance and good management prospered with the advancing years, and later added one hundred acres to his original farm, in section 27, Eglon township, on which land he also made all improvements. He carried on general farming and stock raising extensively and became one of the leading farmers of his community. He built a comfortable home and a number of convenient outbuildings. Mrs. Olson has made considerable improvements since her husband's death and has managed the place successfully, continuing the work of the same along the lines which he had inaugurated. In connection with general grain and stock farming she raises a large quantity of potatoes, planting fifteen acres in 1917. A good grade of live stock is always to be found on the place.

Mr. Olson was married at Lake Park, Eglon township, Clay county, on January 3, 1882, to Anna Ness, who was born in Norway on December 4, 1855. Her parents were natives of Norway, where they grew up and established their home, the father dying there in the year 1877. After his death Mrs. Ness came to Minnesota and died in Clay county, in 1892. Mrs. Olson came to America in 1881, unaccompanied. She came to Minnesota and located in Clay county, where, not long thereafter she met and married Mr. Olson, of this memoir.

To the union of Halvor Olson and wife eight children were born, named as follow: Sophia, who is married and lives on a farm near Wadena, this state; Sarah, who is married and lives in Minneapolis; Oscar, who has remained on the home farm, which he is operating; Mollie, who has remained at home with her mother; Helen, who is married and lives at Lake Park,

Minnesota; Ella, who is married and makes her home on a farm in Egdon township; Edward, who has remained with his mother and is assisting in running the farm, and Mabel, who is also at home. These children were all educated in the district schools of Clay county. The family are members of the Solum Norwegian Lutheran church.

The death of Halvor Olson occurred on his farm in Egdon township in 1909.

THOMAS N. SLIPER.

Thomas N. Sliper, a progressive farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, was born in Norway on July 15, 1852. He is a son of Nels N. and Jaqumina (Peterson) Sliper, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home. They came to Canada in July, 1868, their vessel taking eight weeks to cross the ocean, and stopped first in Quebec; and from there they came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father worked out until the spring of 1871, when he came to Clay county, Minnesota, driving an ox team to a covered wagon, also drove along his cows, and began life here in typical pioneer fashion, in June, 1871. He took up a pre-emption claim of one hundred and seventy acres in Cromwell township, where his son Thomas N. now lives. He later made it a homestead. He worked hard and managed well and placed the land under a fine state of improvement and cultivation and was one of the successful general farmers of Cromwell township. He spent the rest of his life on this farm, dying in 1888, his widow surviving until 1895. To these parents five children were born, namely: Peter N., now deceased, who came to Minnesota in 1866 and settled in Houston county; Jacob, also deceased, who came to Minnesota in 1867 and settled in Houston county; Thomas N., the subject of this sketch; Kari, and Edward (deceased). The family helped start the first Lutheran church in Clay county.

Thomas N. Sliper spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended the common schools. He was sixteen years old when he came with his parents to America, living with them in Quebec, Canada, Winneshiek county, Iowa, and Clay county, Minnesota. He worked hard, like all pioneer boys of that period, helping develop the new farm on the wild prairies. When he reached his majority he took up a homestead of one hundred and twenty acres and a tree claim of one hundred and thirty acres, in the same section in which his father had located. Upon the death of his father he bought

out the other heirs and now owns a total of about four hundred and fifteen acres, on which he for years carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, but is now retired from active labor, renting his farm. He formerly raised a large quantity of grain, also large numbers of cattle and hogs, and shipped many carloads of live stock to the market annually. He has a modern home, large barns and other first-class improvements. There is a large, fine grove by his home, which he set out many years ago.

Politically, Mr. Sliper is a Republican. He has been township treasurer since 1887 and in other ways has taken an active and an earnest interest in the general public affairs of the community in which he has lived since pioneer days.

C. B. BRODINE.

C. B. Brodine, manager of the Felton Elevator Company at Felton, Clay county, was born in Sweden, September 29, 1855. He is a son of C. B. and Anna (Henrickson) Brodine, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home; in fact, spent their lives in their native country. The father was engaged in the banking business. To these parents eight children were born.

C. B. Brodine grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools. In 1882 he immigrated to America and the first few years of his residence here traveled extensively, visiting places of interest all over the United States. About 1887 he located on a farm near Luce, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, carrying on general farming there several years. Later he bought and sold grain, also handled lumber. He came to Clay county, about 1898, locating on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, four miles south of Felton, and continued farming there until 1905, when he rented out his land and moved to Felton and has since been manager of the Felton Elevator Company, building up a large and growing business. He handles feed, grain, flour, fuel and machinery.

Mr. Brodine was married on November 14, 1890, to Ida Rassmussen, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of B. F. and Margarette (Larson) Rassmussen, natives of Denmark. To Mr. and Mrs. Brodine six children have been born, Anna E., Ruth E., Ada M., Alonzo G., Calvin J. and Philip O.

Politically, Mr. Brodine is a Democrat. While living on the farm in Flowing township he served for some time as chairman of the township

board, also as assessor and clerk of the school district. Since locating in Felton he has been a member of the village council, clerk of the school district, and is at this writing clerk of Felton township. As a public servant he has performed his duties in a faithful and satisfactory manner, and is always deeply interested in public affairs.

NELS HAMMER.

One of the leading farmers of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, is Nels Hammer, who was born, May 3, 1862, in Norway. He is a son of Nicholi and Inge (Torreson) Hammer, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died, the father passing away at the early age of thirty-eight, when his son, Nels, was five years old. He owned and operated a farm in his native land. His widow survived to 1881, reaching the age of fifty-seven years. They were parents of the following children: Mary, who is married and lives on the old homestead in Norway; Tom, who died when three years of age; Tom (second), who is a road master in Norway, having been in railroad service there many years; Olaf, who came to Minnesota, and is farming a place of two hundred and forty acres in Keene township, Clay county; Margaretta, who died in Norway, and Nels, the subject of this sketch.

Nels Hammer spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended school. He came to America in 1882, coming directly to Minnesota. After working one summer for Peter Nelson on his farm in Eglon township, Clay county, he went to Wisconsin, spent one year in the lumber camps at Rice Lake, then went to Drummond, that state, and continued to work in the timber and in a saw-mill there for three and one-half years. He returned to Clay county in 1886 and during the summer of that year worked on the Northern Pacific railroad—the branch through the village of Hitterdal. He worked for Ole Gunderson the next winter, then on a farm for one year. He then purchased his present farm of eighty acres in section 33, Goose Prairie township, later buying another eighty, and he now owns a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. It was all raw land when he bought it and he has placed it under a fine state of cultivation, erected a substantial group of buildings, set out a grove and otherwise improved it. Mr. Hammer carries on general and mixed farming and raises a good grade of Shorthorn cattle. He is one of the pioneers of his community and was the first man to

borrow the sum of five dollars from the Bank of Hawley, just after it was started.

Mr. Hammer was married in Fargo, North Dakota, June 16, 1888, to Jennie Salvevold, who was born in Norway, November 27, 1865, and who was about fourteen years of age when her parents brought her to America. The family located in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where the father spent the rest of his life on a farm, dying a number of years ago. The mother is still living on the homestead there with her son. She is now about eighty years old. To Mr. and Mrs. Hammer eight children have been born, namely: Theodore, who owns and operates the hotel at Hitterdal, and Engar, Minnie, Nels, Jr., Nora, Stella, Elmer and Lillian, who are all at home.

Politically, Mr. Hammer is independent. He has been a member of the township board in Goose Prairie township for a period of twenty years, and chairman of the same part of the time. He is a member of the United Norwegian church, in which he is a deacon, and is an active worker in the same.

NELS M. KLEPPE.

Nels M. Kleppe, justice of the peace in and for Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and for many years engaged in the grain business at Averill, but who is now giving his chief attention to his quarter-section farm in the immediate vicinity of that village, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country and of Minnesota since he was an infant. He was born on November 22, 1885, son of S. R. and Nellie (Nelson) Kleppe, also natives of Norway, who came to this country in 1886 and located in Yellow Medicine county, this state remaining there about sixteen years, at the end of which time they moved to Lyon county. In this latter county S. R. Kleppe spent his last days and his widow is still living there. Of the children born to them three survive, those besides the subject of this sketch being Rasmus and Sikke.

As noted above, Nels M. Kleppe was but a babe in arms when his parents came from Norway to Minnesota and his youth was spent in Yellow Medicine county, where he received the greater part of his schooling. After the family moved to Lyon county he became a valued assistant in the labors of the home farm there and remained there until 1908, when

he came up into the Red River country and located at Averill, being there engaged as grain buyer for the Minnesota & Western Grain Company, and continued thus engaged until 1915, since which time he has been chiefly engaged in farming, operating a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres nearby the village. In the meantime, in 1912, he married Mrs. Effie Johnson, who was then and still is conducting a general store at Averill, and until he took up active farming assisted in the management of the store as well as looking after his grain business. Mr. Kleppe has given close attention to the general civic affairs of his home community since locating here and for the past six years has been serving as justice of the peace.

Mrs. Kleppe was born, Effie Hawkins, on a pioneer farm in Rockwell township, in the adjoining county of Norman, daughter of Christian Inge bright and Johanna Johnson (Slater) Hawkins, the former a native of Norway and the latter of Sweden, who were married in Minnesota and became pioneers of Norman county, where Christian Hawkins spent his last days. His widow is still living. She was born in Sweden and was but six years of age when she came to this country with her parents, Peter and Mary (Johnson) Slater, who first settled in Washington county, this state, later moving to Carver county, where they spent their last days. Christian Hawkins came to the United States from Norway when about twenty-one years of age and located at Minneapolis, where he became engaged working at his trade as a tailor. He married about 1876 and about two years later, after a year spent at Fergus Falls, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land six miles east of Borup, in Norman county. Upon his retirement from the farm he moved to Averill and later to Ada, where he died in May, 1905, at the age of sixty-four years. His father died in Norway and his mother later married again and came to this country. Christian Hawkins helped to organize the first church established in the vicinity of Borup.

On October 30, 1897, Effie Hawkins was united in marriage to John Johnson, who was born in Sweden on September 17, 1867, son of John and Johanna Johnson, who spent all their lives in their native Sweden. When twenty years of age the younger John Johnson came to the United States and after a while located at Felton, in Clay county, later moving to Averill, where in March, 1898, he started the first store established in that village and also operated a farm in that vicinity. Mr. Johnson was for years a member of the school board at Averill and credit was due him for the movement which led to the erection of the school house there. Though reared

as a Lutheran he helped to organize the Congregational church at Felton and also aided in the organization of the church at Averill. John Johnson died on February 20, 1911, leaving a widow and four children, Clara, Evelyn, Leonard and Ruby.

OLE H. GOL.

Some people seem to forget that a fertile soil is a living, breathing thing, well fed by nature or by the hand of man, with the natural mineral elements and the organic matter necessary for the use of the soil bacteria in the manufacture of plant food, and for a delightful environment in which they can live and work. Ole H. Gol, a farmer of Highland Grove township, Clay county, has not overlooked this fact, and consequently he is making his farm produce good crops annually and is living comfortably as a result of his good management.

Mr. Gol was born in Norway, November 15, 1868. He is a son of Hans and Ragna (Tolleison) Tolleison, both natives of Norway, where they spent their lives on a farm. Eight children were born to them, namely: Tollef Hanson, the first; Tollef Hanson, the second; Berget Hanson, and Arinna Hanson, all of whom live in Norway; Hans Hanson, who came to Minnesota and lives in Eglon township, Clay county; Nels Hanson, who lives in Norway; Ole H., the subject of this sketch, and Ingebright, the wife of Christ Erickson, of Parke township, Clay county.

Ole H. Gol spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He remained with his parents on the home farm until about 1896, when he immigrated to America and came to Minnesota, locating on a farm in Eglon township, Clay county, where he remained about eight years, then removed to Highland Grove township, buying his present excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres, where he has since been engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In the spring of 1906 Mr. Gol was married to Emma Sophia Westberg, who was born on her father's homestead in Highland Grove township, Clay county, where she grew to womanhood. She was educated in the local district schools. She is a daughter of Peter and Annie (Anderson) Westberg, both natives of Sweden, from which country they came to Minnesota when young and were married in Clay county in 1881. Mr. Westberg came directly to Clay county in 1879 and was one of the pioneers in Highland

Grove township, where he now owns a fine farm of two hundred acres, on which he has made all the improvements. His family consists of eight children, named as follow: Emma, the first (deceased); Lewis, Jennie, Emma (second), wife of Mr. Gol; Adolph, who lives on the home farm and assists his father in operating the place, and Annie, Minnie and Tilda. A separate sketch of the Westberg family will be found on another page of this work.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gol one child has been born, a son, Helmer Roy Gol. Mr. Gol is a Republican and has always been interested in the affairs of his home community. He was a member of the village council at Mani-toba Junction, Clay county, where he lived a while many years ago. He and his family belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

AUGUST STIENING

The name of August Stiening, banker of Felton, is too well known to the people of Clay county to need any formal introduction by the biographer. He was born in Germany, July 17, 1868, and is a son of Carl and Anna Maria (Knollmann) Stiening, both natives of Germany, where they grew up and married. The father was a wagon-maker by trade and he became a well-known manufacturer of wagons in Guernheim, Germany, but later in life he devoted his attention to the lumber and merchandise business. His family consisted of five children, namely: Heinrich, who lives in Germany, a painter and decorator by trade; Carl, who died at Waterloo, Illinois; Wilhelm, who makes his home at Waterloo, Illinois; Herman, who resided in Waterloo, Illinois, and is now deceased, and August, who is the youngest of the family.

August Stiening grew to manhood in Germany, and where he attended the public schools and worked with his father when a young man. When he was about twenty years old his father was appointed postmaster at Guernheim, in 1888, but it was the understanding of the government that the son, August, was to run the office, which he did for a period of eight years, performing his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner. He had five carriers and two sub-stations under his direction. His health failing, he was advised, in 1896, to take an ocean trip in the hopes of restoring it. On September 3 of that year he sailed from his native land

for the New World. He came on West to Waterloo, Illinois, to visit his brothers and was so favorably impressed with the United States that he decided to remain here, so he sent back to Germany for his wife and two children. The first year he worked with his brother, Wilhelm, at Waterloo, painting and paper-hanging. In the fall of 1896 he purchased a farm of two hundred acres about six miles south of Waterloo, erected a large brick house thereon and made other important improvements, living there three years. There were good buildings on the place when he bought it, but his renter occupied them. In the summer of 1900 he was overcome by the heat while working in a cornfield. Believing that the climate of the Northwest would be better for him, he made an extensive trip, finally selecting the vicinity of Anamoose, North Dakota, and homesteaded one hundred and twenty acres six miles northwest of that town. He soon had a good farm improved there and, prospering through close application and good management, he now owns a half section. In 1904 he started buying grain for the Osborn McMillan Elevator Company at Martin, North Dakota, working for that firm about a year. He then worked for the A. D. Zien Company, wholesale liquor dealers of Duluth, Minnesota, as a traveling salesman, but in a short time he accepted a similar position with the Jung Brewing Company, of Milwaukee, being stationed at the company's branch house at East Grand Forks, this state, at good wages and all expenses paid, and was manager of the house there for eighteen months. In August, 1910, he came to Clay county, as cashier of the First State Bank of Felton, and has held this position ever since, giving his usual satisfaction, being able, loyal and courteous to the patrons of the bank. He has also been treasurer of the Felton Rural Telephone Company. He and Otto Dahl built the first brick building in Felton—a bank building and store house.

On September 5, 1893, Mr. Steining was married to Johanna Meyer, and four children have been born to them, namely: Maria Elizabeth, Carl H., Marie and Jenny. Mr. Steining is independent in his political views. He has been active and influential in the affairs of Felton since coming here. was for some time president of the village, has done much for the upbuilding of the town and community, served for five years on the local school board and has also served as justice of the peace. He put in the first cement sidewalks in Felton and otherwise improved the place in a general way. He has been a leader among the people of this locality, is a man of progressive ideas and has discharged his duties as a public servant in a capable and faithful manner.

LEWIS N. QUAM.

Lewis N. Quam, one of the wideawake twentieth century farmers of Spring Prairie township, Clay county, was born in Steele county, Minnesota, October 25, 1856. He is a son of John N. and Anna (Lysne) Quam, both born in Sogan, Norway, where they grew up and married. In the spring of 1854 they came to America, locating in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they spent two years, moving from there to Steele county, in the southern part of Minnesota, in the spring of 1856, making the journey from the Badger state in a covered wagon, drawn by an ox-team. Three other families came along at the same time, crossing the Mississippi river at McGregor on the ferry. Mr. Quam took up a pre-emption claim in Steele county, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. He made a splendid farm of it and operated the same until 1870, when he moved to Kandiyohi county, this state, where he bought a farm on which he spent the rest of his life, dying some years ago, and there his widow still makes her home. To these parents ten children were born, five of whom died before reaching maturity. Those who grew up were as follow: Lewis N., the subject of this sketch; Nels, who lives in Willmar, Minnesota; Wilda, who lives in Kandiyohi county, this state; Metba, who lives in the state of Washington, and John, who took up a homestead in Bowman county, North Dakota, where he is engaged in farming.

Lewis N. Quam spent his boyhood on the farm in Steele county, Minnesota. There he attended the district schools and later was a student in the Augustberg Seminary at Minneapolis two winters. In the spring of 1882 he went to Montana, where he worked two summers and one winter in the Placer gold mines. He then returned to Minneapolis and was a student in the above-named seminary for another four months. He then made a prospecting trip through Clay county, bringing horses, a wagon, plow, etc. He traded his three horses for a homestead right of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 26 of Spring Prairie township. The following year, 1885, he began developing the place and has resided there ever since. He prospered with advancing years through perseverance and good management and added to his original holdings until he now owns a total of four hundred acres, all in one body. He has erected a handsome residence and substantial outbuildings, also planted large groves. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser, operating on a large scale, and ranking among the leading agriculturists of his township and county.



MR. AND MRS. LEWIS N. GTALL



In the fall of 1885 Lewis N. Quam was married to Carrie Arneson, who was born in Norway. She is a daughter of Arne Arneson, who died in Norway, but whose widow came to America about the year 1897 and is still living, making her home with her daughter in Spring Prairie township. Fourteen children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Quam, namely: John A., Agnes M., Lalia Clarisa, Harry Edwin, Ralph W., an infant (deceased), Nina, Mathia, Andrew L., Goodhue N., Sophia May, Roy E., Anna Gladys, Lewis Norris, and Morrel O'Neil.

Politically, Mr. Quam is an "Independent." He helped organize the school district, which then comprised the entire township. He was the first school clerk and has held that office ever since in his district. As the county was settled there were a number of small districts formed from the old one. He is now chairman of the township board, which office he has held for fifteen years. The Quams have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested and influential part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

PETER WESTBERG.

Peter Westberg, one of the older farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, was born in Sweden, September 21, 1847. He is a son of Nels Peterson, a native of Sweden, where he grew up, married and lived until immigrating to the United States in 1879, following his son Peter, with whom he spent the rest of his life. His wife died in Sweden.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools. He landed in America on October 20, 1878, and came to Minnesota, locating at Lake Park, in Becker county. In 1880 he took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Highland Grove township, Clay county, and here he has lived continuously to the present time. He later purchased forty acres more, making him at present a fine farm of two hundred acres, all of which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. He has a cozy residence and such out-buildings as his needs require. Mr. Westberg was a pioneer here, most of the land in his locality being raw prairie when he came here, and he has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Westberg was married in Clay county on June 23, 1881, to Annie

Anderson, a native of Sweden, in which country she spent her girlhood and attended the common schools. She came to America the latter part of 1880. Her parents lived and died in Sweden. To Peter Westberg and wife nine children have been born, namely: Emma (deceased), Lewis, Jennie, Emma (second), Adolph, Annie, Minnie, Tilda and one who died in infancy.

Adolph Westberg operates the home farm, having assisted his father with the crops and stock raising for years, and he still lives at home. He was married April 8, 1915, to Anna Carlson, a daughter of John E. Carlson, a well known farmer of Highland Grove township, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. To Adolph Westberg and wife one child has been born, a son, Adolph Willard Westberg.

Politically, Peter Westberg is independent and has never sought public honors or mixed up with political affairs. He helped organize the Ejska Lutheran church, of which he is an active member, he and his family taking an interested part in church work.

HERMAN POSSEHL.

Another member of the well-known Possehl family in Clay county, who is making a success as a general farmer is Herman Possehl, of near Baker, Barnesville township. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, August 2, 1869, and is a son of Fred Possehl and wife, mention of whom is made at proper length in the sketch of H. C. Possehl, appearing on another page of this work, to which the reader is respectfully directed. Suffice it to say here that Fred Possehl was a native of Germany, from which country he came to the United States in young manhood and began life in Illinois, starting with practically nothing, but by good management and hard work he forged ahead, farming in that state and later in Iowa, and now is living in retirement at Baker, Clay county, having accumulated a comfortable competency through his own efforts. He married Minnie Schlede, also a native of Germany, and to their union eight children were born, namely: Sophia, Emma, Herman, H. C., Fred, Jr., Martha, Louis and Minnie.

Herman Possehl grew up on the home farm in Dupage county, Illinois, being but a child when his parents removed there from Cook county, that state. He received his education in the public schools. As a young man he started farming in Franklin county, Iowa, where his family moved upon leaving Illinois. There he became owner of eighty acres, which he

farmed until in February, 1911, when he sold out and came to Minnesota. He bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, Barnesville township, Clay county, and there he has since been successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has since added another quarter section of land to his fine farm, in the same section. He also conducts a dairy, the output of which is constantly increasing. His place is well improved in every respect and he is regarded as one of the progressive general farmers and stock men of his township.

Mr. Possehl was married in 1894 to Emma Hopkey, a native of this country, who was educated in the common schools. She is a daughter of John and Minnie Hopkey, of Latimer, Iowa. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Possehl, namely: Walter, Herman, Jr., and Aleda.

Politically, Mr. Possehl is a Republican and is at present a member of the board of supervisors of Barnesville township. He is a member of the German Lutheran church, in which faith he was reared. While living in Franklin county, Iowa, he was assessor of his township.

JOHN F. YOUNG.

John F. Young, an energetic and substantial farmer, also renter of land and engaged in general farming, is a native of the Empire state, but has been a resident of Clay county for the past fourteen years. He is the son of John and Ann (Miller) Young, both of whom were natives of England and who left that country while yet young and came to the United States.

John Young was born in England in 1838 and some years later immigrated to the United States and went to Cortland county, New York, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring about twenty-five years ago. He was married to Ann Miller, who was also a native of England and who came to this country when a young girl. They were married in Cortland, New York. Mrs. Young died in the fall of the year 1916. They were the parents of the following children: Wilfred, living; Jennie and Anna, deceased; Ella, married; Rose, married; William, deceased; Henry, John and Nancy, the latter also deceased.

John F. Young, the subject of this sketch, was born in Cortland county, New York, in 1874. He was educated in the public schools and early decided to follow the life of a farmer. He came to Minnesota in 1903 and

immediately proceeded to rent some land in Clay county. He succeeded in his early venture and later acquired a tract of land by purchase and is now the owner of one hundred and fifty acres of choice land, in addition to which he rents three hundred and twenty acres. He carries on general farming, including the cultivation of potatoes, and since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his farm being in excellent condition and the improvements of modern class. Mr. Young contemplates raising Red Polled cattle and success in this line is also predicted for him.

In August, 1900, John F. Young was united in marriage to Christina Larson, who was born in Olmsted county, Minnesota, in 1879. To this union the following children have been born: Ruth, Robert, Arthur and Helen. Mr. Young takes a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs and in the general affairs of the community, but has never been a seeker after political office, preferring to devote his time to his agricultural interests.

AUGUST F. HOPPE.

August F. Hoppe, one of the progressive young farmers of Alliance township, Clay county, the owner of a quarter section of fine land adjoining his father's place in that township, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born at Winona in 1884, a son of August and Augusta Hoppe, natives of Germany, the former of whom was born in 1856, who came to this country with their family in the early eighties and settled at Winona, this state, where they lived until about 1895, when they came up into this part of the state and settled in Clay county, where they have since made their home. August Hoppe is the owner of a half section of land in Alliance township and has developed a fine bit of farm property there, his place being well improved and profitably cultivated. His son August owns a quarter of a section adjoining, the places being in sections 20 and 21. August Hoppe and wife have nine children, William, Fred, Charles, Frank, John, August, Bertha, Annie and Ida. Of these, Fred, August, Annie and Bertha are married.

August F. Hoppe was about eleven years of age when his parents settled in Clay county and his schooling was completed in the schools of his home neighborhood. From the days of his boyhood he was a valued aid in the labors of improving and developing the home place and in time

became the owner of a quarter of a section of land adjoining his father's farm and since his marriage in 1911 has made his home there. He has a modern house on the place and his well-kept farm plant is in keeping with the same, everything being up-to-date and indicative of the progressive spirit of the owner. Of late he and his father have been giving considerable attention to potato culture and on his farm in the summer of 1917 he had out about twenty-five acres of potatoes, while his father had out forty acres.

In 1911 August F. Hoppe was united in marriage to Charlotte Ernst, who was born in Clay county in 1891, and to this union two children have been born, Harry and Louise. Mr. and Mrs. Hoppe have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the community's general social affairs.

HAKAN OLSON.

Hakan Olson, a well-known and progressive farmer, owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, Riverton township, this county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country for thirty years, or since 1887. He was born in Sweden in 1866 and is a son of Ole H. and Anna Olson, also natives of the same country and in which they spent all their lives.

Ole H. Olson was born in Sweden in 1822 and was educated in the public schools of his native place. He was engaged throughout his active life as a farmer and died seventeen years ago, in 1900, at the age of seventy-two years. His wife, Anna Olson also was a native of Sweden, born there in 1835, and was educated in the schools of her home neighborhood. She died in 1905, at the age of seventy years. Ole H. Olson and wife were the parents of two children, Anders and Hakan. The parents of these children were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and took a proper interest in the affairs of same, active and influential residents of the district in which they lived.

Hakan Olson was educated in the schools of his native Sweden and was reared on his father's farm. From boyhood he was a valuable assistant to his father on the farm and continued thus engaged up to 1887. In the latter year he left the old country and immigrated to the United States, and on his arrival proceeded on out to Fargo. He began working for himself at farm labor, saving all the money possible with the view of

acquiring land for himself. In this latter purpose he was successful and settled on his present farm eleven years ago. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land in section 22, Riverton township, on which he carries on general farming, and since the commencement of his operations he has been very fortunate, everything about his farm disclosing an air of prosperity. Mr. Olson has carried out a systematic series of improvements on his place and in the summer of 1917 remodeled the dwelling from the foundation up.

In 1902 Hakan Olson was united in marriage to Freda Knutson, who was born in Sweden in 1879. Mrs. Olson came to this country when about nine years old and later came to reside in this county, her marriage taking place at Moorhead. To Hakan Olson and wife the following children have been born: John, Clara, Adolph, Olof, Annie, Henry, Herman and Lilly, all of whom are living at home with their parents. The Olson family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and are warmly interested in the affairs of the same, as well as in all the general community interests of the district in which they live. Mr. Olson takes a good citizen's part in the public and civic welfare of the township, but has never been a seeker after political office.

ELLING HAUG.

Elling Haug, a well-known and substantial farmer of Keene township, owner of two hundred and twenty acres of splendid farming land, engaged in raising a fine grade of Shorthorn cattle, former supervisor of the township and former clerk of the school board, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of this county since he was nineteen years old. He is a son of Gilbert and Gunel Haug, both natives of Norway and who were of the farming class in that country.

Gilbert Haug, who died many years ago, at the age of sixty years, spent all his life in Norway, where he was a farmer, holding rented land. After the death of Gilbert Haug, his widow, Gunel Haug, came to America, about 1877, accompanied by a brother and two sisters, and proceeded to the state of Minnesota, locating in the southern part of Minnesota, where she lived for one year. She then moved to Ulen township, Clay county, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 18, and lived there up to the time of her death in 1889. Gilbert and Gunnel Haug were the parents of the following children: Carrie, deceased; Maria, who died in 1915; Elling,

the subject of this sketch; Erick, married, who lives in section 2 of Keene township, and is the father of ten children; Mrs. Lizzie Broset, who lives in Ulen township, and Thea, who is married and lives in Twin Valley.

On arriving in this county Elling Haug took charge of his mother's homestead farm and worked it until the death of the mother, when it was sold. Later, he decided to begin farming life on his own account and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, Keene township, and immediately proceeded to the task of preparing the land for cultivation and soon had things going in good shape. Mr. Haug erected all the buildings to be seen on the place today and carried out many improvements, finally bringing the place up to a standard not surpassed in the township. He later bought an additional sixty acres in section 3, of the township, improving the farm and bringing it up to date, and is now the owner of two hundred and twenty acres of choice land and on the two holdings is engaged in general farming and in the raising of Shorthorn cattle.

Elling Haug was united in marriage to Gurine Grandahl, a native of Norway, born there in 1863, who came to this country alone at the age of twenty years. Her parents lived and died in Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Haug are the parents of six children, namely: Mabel, living in Viding township; Gena, working at Devil's Lake; Eline, at home; Emma, working at Devil's Lake, and Gilman and Clarence, at home. Mr. Haug is a member of the Synod church, of which he acts as treasurer, and formerly served as deacon and trustee. He takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs and was clerk to the local school board for four years, and served as supervisor of the township board for one term. He helped to organize the creamery and co-operative store at Ulen and is a stockholder in the same. In all matters appertaining to the welfare of the community he is ever ready to lend a helping hand and is regarded as one of the progressive men of the township in which he lives.

OLE M. STEEN.

Ole M. Steen, one of the most painstaking farmers of Oakport township, Clay county, was born in Norway, May 12, 1860. Mr. Steen grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools, also a military training school for officers. Upon completing his course he came to the United States in 1882, single, making the long continuous journey to Fargo, North Dakota. Since then he has made his home in Clay county, Minnesota.

JULIUS A. HANSEN.

Farming has become an exact science and the best and brightest minds in the country have not thought it beneath their dignity to give it the best of their efforts and genius. Julius A. Hansen, of Highland Grove township, Clay county, is a type of our better class of farmers, a man who uses more brain than brawn in operating his place.

Mr. Hansen was born in Henry county, Illinois, October 20, 1876, a son of Fred and Anna (Johnson) Hansen, both natives of Denmark. The father came to America with his parents in 1868, the family locating in Henry county, Illinois, where they resided until 1879, when they removed to Seward county, Nebraska, taking up a homestead on which the parents of Fred Hansen spent the rest of their lives. The father was a tailor by trade and followed that trade in Denmark, but after coming to the United States he followed farming. His name was Hans Hansen and he married Marn Stena Beck. They were both natives of Denmark. Anna Johnson, mother of the subject of this sketch, was a daughter of Hans Christian Johnson and wife, also natives of Denmark, where the mother's death occurred. The father later came to America and died in Nebraska. Their daughter, Anna Johnson, was nine years old when her father brought her to America, in 1868. They located in Henry county, Illinois, where they resided until 1880, when he moved to Seward county, Nebraska, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a farm laborer. The paternal grandfather was a soldier in the Danish army and fought in the war between his country and Germany.

The parents of the subject of this sketch were married in Illinois and from there, in 1879, moved to Seward county, Nebraska, where the mother's death occurred in 1882, and where the father spent the rest of his active life engaged in farming. However, he farmed in Kansas for a while. He returned to Denmark in 1913, where his death occurred. Two children were born to Fred and Anna (Johnson) Hansen, namely: Julius A., the subject of this sketch, and Rosa. After the death of his first wife, Fred Hansen married Mrs. Margaret (Hansen) Johnson, a native of Denmark, who had one child, Emma Johnson, by her former husband. She bore her second husband five children, Rudolf, Fred (deceased), May, Walter and Harold.

Julius A. Hansen grew up on the farm in Seward county, Nebraska, having been but six years of age when his parents moved there from Illi-



JULIUS A. HANSEN AND FAMILY.

nois. He worked on the farm during the crop seasons and attended the common schools in the winter time. As a young man he engaged in farming in Seward county, Nebraska, for himself, remaining there until the fall of 1914, having made a decided success along general lines of mixed farming and stock raising. Upon coming to Minnesota from Nebraska he located on his present farm in Highland, Grove township, Clay county, purchasing there one of the choice farms of the township, the same consisting of four hundred acres, which is well improved and on which he is carrying on general farming and stock raising with very gratifying results.

On March 17, 1897, Mr. Hansen was married to Elsie Nelson, who was born in Henry county, Illinois. She is a daughter of Rasmus and Caroline (Palle) Nelson, both natives of Denmark, from which country they came to America, single, each coming alone, the father in 1869 and the mother about 1872. They were married in Henry county, Illinois, and continued to reside there until 1894, when they removed to Seward county, Nebraska, where they still live. They followed general farming until retiring some time ago. They now reside in the town of Cordova. Rasmus Nelson is a son of Nels and Elsie Jensen, both natives of Denmark, where they lived and died. The parents of Mrs. Rasmus Nelson also lived and died in Denmark. Two children, a son and a daughter, were born to Rasmus Nelson and wife, namely: Axel and Elsie.

To Julius A. Hansen and wife eight children have been born: Alfred, Clarence, Anna, Arthur, Joseph, Harvey, Elmer and Hazel. The Hansens are members of the Lutheran church. Politically Mr. Hansen is a Republican.

HAROLD O. WOLDAHL.

The tiller of the soil who has a true vision of twentieth-century farming will utilize every acre of his land, raise a good grade of live stock, purchase labor-saving machinery and will make his surroundings attractive in a general way. Then he will experience the full reward of his labors. Such a man is Harold O. Woldahl, of Goose Prairie township, Clay county.

Mr. Woldahl was born in Norway on August 20, 1859. He is a son of Ole and Bertha (Woldahl) Roeros, and took his mother's maiden name upon coming to America. His parents were natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and resided all their lives. The father died in 1887, when past the age of seventy years. He owned two farms and en-

gaged in farming all his life. His wife, who was his junior by two years, died the day following his death. To these parents eight children were born, namely: Jens, who died in Sweden in 1915; Johanas, who lives on one of the farms which the father left in Norway; Ole, who lives on the other farm which the father left; Berge, who is living with Ole; Johanna, who died when sixteen years old; Elizabeth, now deceased, was a twin, the other child dying in infancy, unnamed; Harold, of this review, is the youngest of the family.

Harold O. Woldahl spent his boyhood in Norway and was there educated. He worked on the home farm with his father until 1881, when he immigrated to America and located in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, where he worked out as a farm hand. He then came to Clay county, arriving at Hawley on February 2, 1882. He worked for his cousin there for over a year, and in the spring of 1883 went to Otter Tail county, rented a farm, and while there was married. In the fall of 1883 he came to Goose Prairie township, Clay county, and bought the farm on which he now lives, his land lying in sections 31 and 32. He also owns land in section 6, Highland Grove township. His excellent farm is well improved in every respect, all the improvements having been made by himself. His place consists of three hundred and twenty-three acres. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and makes a specialty of raising Shorthorn cattle.

Mr. Woldahl was married in Otter Tail county on May 23, 1883, to Merian Salvevold, who was born in Norway on March 16, 1858. She spent her girlhood there and attended the common schools. She came to America with her parents in 1880, the family locating on a farm in Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where the father took up a homestead, buying a right, and there established a comfortable home and spent the rest of his life engaged in general farming, dying in 1890 at the age of sixty-five years. His widow still lives on the old homestead there and is now (1917) seventy-nine years old. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Woldahl, namely: Bertha, who was born in 1885; Oscar, who is living on a rented farm one mile east of where his father resides; Johanna, who died in June, 1907; Edward, who lives in Montana; John, who died in November, 1911; Minnie, who lives at home; Louis and Christ (twins), at home, and Malven.

Politically, Mr. Woldahl is independent. He has been a member of the township board for many years and he also served as road boss several years. He and his family belong to the United Lutheran church and he was formerly a trustee of the same.

LUDWIG A. OPSAHL.

Most farms succeed in spite of certain weaknesses. Some of these weaknesses can be corrected; others are due to conditions that cannot be improved, such as naturally poor soil, short growing seasons, steep hills and various things. No better example of a good general farmer than Ludwig A. Opsahl could be found in Ulen township, Clay county.

Mr. Opsahl was born in Norway, September 27, 1860. He is a son of Andrew and Anna (Larson) Peterson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and, in fact, spent all their lives. They have been deceased many years. The father was a carpenter, and followed that trade during his active life. To these parents the following children were born: Louisa, the eldest, who came to America when young and has remained in this country; Ludwig A., the subject of this sketch, and Maria, Olena and Christian, who are living in Norway, where they have always resided.

Ludwig A. Opsahl spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He set sail for the shores of the new world in 1881, when twenty-one years old, and upon his arrival at port proceeded on out to Minnesota, arriving at Red Wing in June of that year and at once began working near there as a farm hand. He remained in that vicinity until 1886, in which year he moved to Ulen township, Clay county, and bought a relinquishment to a quarter section, and later homesteaded the same. To this he later added eighty acres just across the road from his original holdings and also purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 7 of Ulen township. Mr. Opsahl has placed all his land under an excellent state of cultivation and improvement, including the erection of a large modern home and numerous out-buildings, and has by infinite effort and patience transformed the wild prairie into choice farming land. He set out a large grove when he first came here, which is now very attractive. He engages in general and mixed farming, raising a large quantity of grain annually; also prepares large numbers of cattle and hogs for market and makes a specialty of raising a good grade of Percheron horses. He handles Shorthorn cattle.

In 1886 Ludwig A. Opsahl was married to Elena Johnson, who was born in Norway, from which country her mother brought her to Minnesota when she was five years old, settling at Red Wing. She is a daughter of John and Sarah (Borstad) Melha, natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home and where the father died when comparatively young, after which his widow brought her children to the United

States. She remarried in Red Wing, this state, her second husband being John Tildon. They removed to Norman county in the fall of 1881, Mr. Tildon taking up a homestead there of one hundred and sixty acres in Home Lake township, where he still lives, his wife, the mother of Mrs. Opsahl, dying there a number of years ago. She had one child by her last husband, Julia Tildon. Seven children, all living, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Opsahl, namely: Adolph, Joseph, Lewis, Rachael, Selma, Ole and Inez.

Politically, Mr. Opsahl is a Republican. He served as a member of the township board several years ago and has been township chairman since 1915.

L. O. TORSTENSON.

Life is where things are born and live and grow. On the farm is real life. It is not to be found in the city. Realizing this when young L. O. Torstenson, a farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, took up agricultural pursuits and he has always been contented with his environment.

Mr. Torstenson was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and he is a son of Ole and Anna (Larson) Torstenson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and continued to make their home until 1867, when they immigrated to America, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they lived on a farm until 1873, when they removed to Douglas county, this state, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm, the father dying in 1883 and the mother in 1911. To these parents six children were born, named as follows, and all still living: Tosten O., L. O., Belle, Otto, Knut, and Gulick.

L. O. Torstenson grew to manhood on the home farm in Douglas county, and there he attended the district schools. He worked hard when a boy, assisting his brothers with the general work on the home farm, for when he was ten years old his father was killed in a runaway accident and the labors of developing the home farm fell on the brothers. Later L. O. Torstenson took charge of the farm and continued to operate it until 1897, in which year he purchased the farm on which he now lives, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres. By perseverance and good management he has prospered as a general farmer and stock raiser and has added to his original holdings until he now has a total of two hundred and forty acres. However, he did not begin improving his farm at once after coming to Clay county, but worked out and rented land, for five years. Since about 1902 he has engaged

in farming for himself on his own land. In connection with general and mixed farming he specializes in potato growing, planting a large acreage every year. He was formerly one of the stockholders and for two years a director of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Hawley. He is also a stockholder in the Rollag Telephone Company at Rollag, also a stockholder in the Equity Packing Plant in Fargo. He is financially interested in the Northwestern Hospital in Moorhead.

Politically, Mr. Torstenson is a Republican. He has served ten years consecutively as treasurer of the local school district and is still holding that position. He is unmarried.

JOHN G. STEEN.

It is a pleasure to look over a well-kept and productive farm like that owned by John G. Steen, of Spring Prairie township, Clay county, where he has long been regarded as a representative citizen and a man of many commendable traits, a useful and highly respected gentleman.

Mr. Steen was born in Honefos, Norway, in 1864, and there he grew to manhood and attended school. He came to America, single, in 1882, and located first at Lake Park, Minnesota, from which point he traveled for the Northern Pacific Elevator Company, with which he remained seven years, giving the firm entire satisfaction and doing much to increase the business and prestige of the same. He then came to Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and with the exception of two years, during which he was engaged in the mercantile business in Spokane, Washington, has been here continuously ever since 1897, living on his present farm all the while. Through hard work and perseverance he developed a fine farm from the raw prairie, and, adding to his original farm, he now has three hundred and twenty acres of well-improved land, on which he has been very successful as a general farmer. He makes a specialty of raising Holstein cattle.

Mr. Steen was married in Clay county to Bertha Thuney, a native of Goodhue county, this state, and a daughter of Erick Thuney. They have only one child, Edwin Steen, whose birth occurred on October 15, 1887. He grew up on the home farm and was educated in the public schools and in the State Normal at Moorhead. He has remained on the homestead with his father and assists with the operation of the farm. He was married in 1910 to Emily Hongrud, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and a

daughter of Ole Hongrud. To this union two children have been born, Jarvis and Bernard Steen. Politically, John G. Steen is a member of the Nonpartisan League. He has served as township assessor.

Gulbrand Larson and wife, parents of the subject of this sketch, spent their entire lives in Norway. Four children were born to them, namely: Mary, who lives in Grand Forks, North Dakota; Mollie, who died in Moorhead, Minnesota; Carrie, who lives in Norway, and John G., the subject of this sketch. Erick and Martha Thuney, parents of Mr. Steen's wife, were born in Norway, from which country they came to America, locating in Goodhue county, Minnesota, later moving to Clay county, where the mother is still living, the father having died some years ago. They were the parents of the following children: Anna, Jacob, Ole, John, Susan, Minnie, Bertha, Ida, Erick and Julia.

NILS A. KJELSTAD

Nils A. Kjelstad, a farmer of Highland Grove township, Clay county, was born in Warmland, Sweden, November 4, 1870. He is a son of Andrew and Stena (Nelson) Gunderson, both natives also of the above-named locality in Sweden, where they grew to maturity, were married and established their home. There the mother's death occurred, after which the father immigrated to America in 1880 and located at once in Highland Grove township, Clay county, Minnesota, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 29. He was one of the pioneers of that locality and by hard work and perseverance he improved a good farm, which he continued to operate until about 1907, when he moved to Pelican Lake, in Becker county, this state. Two of the children by his first marriage are living at this writing, namely: Nils A. and Gust. After locating in Clay county, Andrew Gunderson married Ida Hammer, a native of Warmland, Sweden, from which country she came to Minnesota when young. Three children, all living, have been born to the second marriage, namely: Emilia, the wife of L. R. Willis, and Fred and Oscar.

Nils A. Kjelstad spent his childhood in Sweden, where he attended school for awhile, but received most of his education in Clay county, being ten years old when his father brought him to America. He assisted with the general work on the homestead and as a young man began farming for himself, buying one hundred and seventy acres in 1894, in Highland Grove township. He at once began actively farming the same and soon had the

land under a fine state of cultivation and improvement, erecting an excellent group of buildings, setting out a grove, etc. He transformed the bare prairie into one of the most desirable farms in the township, and has continued to reside on the place to the present time, successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Kjelstad helped organize the Farmers' Elevator Company at Hawley, the Farmers' Co-operative Creamery at Hawley, and the Rollag Telephone Company, and has been a stockholder in all three since their organization.

In 1892 Nils A. Kjelstad was married to Anna M. Dahl, a native of Norway, where her parents lived and died. She came to Minnesota in early life. To this union has been born one child, Inga.

FIDELIS MARQUART.

One of the thrifty farmers of Georgetown township, Clay county, is Fidelis Marquart, who was born in Wittenburg, Germany, September 23, 1869. He is a son of Albin and Ludvicka (Stoehr) Marquart, both natives of Germany, where they grew up, married and established their home. The father was a soldier in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, and died a few months after his discharge from the army, his death being due to exposure during the war. In the spring of 1873, the mother of the subject of this sketch, accompanied by her father, Mr. Stoehr, brought her children to Canada, locating in the province of Ontario, but came on to Moorhead, Clay county, Minnesota, in 1874, and the following year moved to Georgetown township. In May, 1874, the mother remarried, her second husband being Jacob Wambach, of Ontario. Upon coming to Georgetown township he bought a farm in section 32, where he engaged in general farming until in March, 1915, when he retired from active life and moved to Moorhead where he and his family now reside.

To Albin Marquart and wife two children were born, Fidelis and Lena. The mother bore her second husband nine children, Joseph, Frank, Matthew, Carl Nicholas, Alphonse, Edmond, Catherine, Josephine and Marie. They have one adopted son, named John.

Fidelis Marquart was about four years of age when his mother brought him to Ontario, Canada. He grew to manhood in Clay county, Minnesota, and the first school he attended was in the old Hudson Bay building in Georgetown township, and later he was a student in the first school house

built in this township. He worked on the home farm when a young man, assisting to develop the virgin soil of the prairies into productive fields. On February 23, 1897, he married Mary Fahlender, a daughter of Leonard and Augusta (Gulde) Fahlender, who were early pioneers of Cass county, North Dakota, where they established their future home on a farm, and the following children were born to them: Joseph P., John A., Philip L., Frank X., Catherine, Elizabeth and Mary, wife of the subject of this sketch.

In March, 1897, shortly after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Marquart moved to their present farm of forty-seven and forty-two one-hundredths acres, in section 23, Georgetown township, on which their dwelling and farm buildings stand. They also own one hundred and twenty acres in section 29, just across the road. Their home is near the townsite. Mr. Marquart has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and is paying more attention each year to stock raising and the dairy business. He has served thirteen years as township clerk and about seven years on the local school board. He has seven children, Leonard, Joseph, Eugene, Walter, Albina, Magdalen and Frances.

NELS THOMPSON.

Nels Thomson, of Spring Prairie township, one of the scientific farmers of Clay county, was born in Sweden, September 27, 1857. He is a son of Thomas and Asrena (Swanson) Parson, natives of Sweden, where they grew up, were married and established their home; in fact, spent all of their lives there. The mother died in early womanhood, but the father survived to an advanced age, dying about the year 1915. To these parents seven children were born, all of whom are living at this writing, namely: Pehr, Elizabeth, Nels, Lena, Tilda, Nellie and Axel.

Nels Thompson spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he attended the public schools and where he made his home until 1882, when he crossed the Atlantic to the great western republic, locating first in North Dakota, where he worked at different places, in railroad service. During this period, while not actively at work, he made his headquarters in Moorhead, Minnesota. He followed railroading for about ten years for the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern and was section foreman at different places, mostly between Moorhead and various points in different directions. He saved his wages and in 1894 began farming, but still continued to maintain his home



MR. AND MRS. NELS THOMPSON.

in Moorhead; but in 1896 moved to his farm, the place he now occupies in Spring Prairie township. Although he owns but eighty acres he usually farms four hundred and eighty acres. He has erected substantial buildings and made other improvements on his land, including the planting of a large grove. The land was only a bare prairie when he came. He has worked hard and managed well and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He purchased the land from a railroad company. Besides his large farming operations he is interested financially in the local telephone company and in the Glyndon creamery, also in the Northwestern Hospital at Fargo.

In the fall of 1889 Mr. Thompson was married to Christina Lindahl, a daughter of John Lindahl, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Thompson passed away in 1909, leaving four children, Emma, Oscar, Lillie and Thomas, who have received their schooling in the common schools of Spring Prairie township.

Mr. Thompson is a Republican in politics and takes an active interest in local public affairs. He has been elected a member of the local school board four different times and is still serving, making twelve years in all when his present term is completed. He has served five terms on the town board and is now serving as a member of the board and is treasurer of the same. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

GUST BACKMAN.

A properly managed farmers' organization can be used to secure the farmers the benefits that "big business" secures from doing things on a large scale. Many have the idea that nothing can be done in this line unless there is a powerful organization, but this is a mistake—the successful co-operative enterprises have come from small beginnings. An advocate of such organizations is Gust Backman, a farmer of Highland Grove township, Clay county.

Mr. Backman was born in Sweden, December 21, 1858. He is a son of Andrew and Cajsa (Svenson) Berg, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1881, when they immigrated to America, locating in Clay county, Minnesota, the father buying forty acres of school land near the present farm of his son, Gust. He

placed the land under cultivation, erected buildings and there engaged in farming the rest of his active life. His wife died there in 1914, after which event he made his home with the subject of this sketch until his death in 1916. These parents were members of the Swedish Lutheran church. Six children were born to them, as follow: John, who is the eldest; Anna, the wife of Erick Anderson; Gust, the subject of this sketch; Mary, deceased; Mrs. Frank Johnson; Johannah, the wife of Ward Connel, and Mrs. Louis Dahlgren, the youngest.

Gust Backman grew to manhood in Sweden, where he attended the public schools. In 1878, when twenty years old, he set sail for the shores of America, coming directly to Becker county, Minnesota, and he worked out as a farm hand at various places for a period of twelve years. He saved his wages and in 1891 bought eighty acres from a railroad company in Highland Grove township and he has continued to make his home on the same to the present time. He made all improvements on it, erecting a good group of buildings and setting out a grove. He has since added another eighty and now has an excellent and well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He has carried on general farming and stock raising with gratifying results. He helped organize the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Lake Park and has been a stockholder in the same ever since. He is also a stockholder in the Lake Park Telephone Company. He has done much to encourage the raising of a better grade of live stock in his county, and he makes a specialty of raising full-blooded Yorkshire hogs. Owing to their superior qualities they find a very ready market at fancy prices whenever he offers them for sale.

Mr. Backman was married in 1886 to Emma Olson, who was born in Sweden. She is a daughter of Carl and Lottie (Erickson) Olson, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their earlier years and married. They came to the United States when their daughter Emma was about eighteen months old, about the year 1868. The family located first in Duluth, where they spent four years, coming on to Clay county, Minnesota, in 1872, locating among the pioneers. Mr. Olson bought railroad land in Eglon township, which he improved, establishing the family's future home there and where he carried on general farming until his death a number of years ago. His widow still lives on the home farm. To these parents three children were born, all still living, namely: Emma, wife of Mr. Backman, the subject of this sketch; Amelia, who is the wife of John Lindberg, and Alfred, who is operating the old home place in Eglon township.

The union of Gust Backman and wife has resulted in the birth of five

children, namely: Amelia, Edith, Esther, Anna and Carl, all of whom are living at this writing. Mr. Backman helped build the present Augustana Lutheran church in his vicinity. Politically, he is a Republican.

OLE A. NYBAKKEN.

Restlessness causes a large number of people to leave their parental halls and seek fortunes in distant lands. This is not necessarily the wander-lust spirit, which is often indulged in to the detriment of the individual, but merely the primitive force urging one to try to better one's condition in life. And this is the impulse that led Ole A. Nybakken, and many others of his countrymen to cast their lots with the people of Minnesota.

Mr. Nybakken, who is engaged in farming in Goose Prairie township, Clay county, was born in Norway in 1863. He is a son of Andreas and Ingeborg Anderson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home and where they spent their lives, the father dying in 1912 and the mother in 1905. To these parents five children were born, Andreas, Jr., Ole, Evan, Christian, who died when twenty-six years old, and Andrus.

Ole A. Nybakken grew to manhood in Norway, where he attended the common schools. In 1881, when eighteen years old, he immigrated to America, coming on West to Northfield, Minnesota, and he worked out as a farm hand in that vicinity until 1886, when he returned to Norway, spending one winter there; then returned to America and located in North Dakota, where he worked for a land company until 1894, when he came to Clay county, Minnesota, buying his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres—the old homestead, in section 30 of Goose Prairie township. Later he bought eighty acres in section 29. He has kept all his land under a fine state of cultivation and improvement, replacing the original buildings on the homestead with modern substantial ones. He has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He grows large crops of wheat, oats and flax, also large quantities of potatoes, having had twelve acres in tubers in 1917. He also keeps a large herd of graded cattle. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Hitterdal.

Mr. Nybakken was married in Minnesota in 1892 to Lizzie Welo, and to their union six children have been born, namely: Ida, who died when two years old; Arthur, Oscar, Ernest, Clarence and Otto. They are all

at home at this writing. Mr. Nybakken served as a member of the school board a few years. He is a member of the United Lutheran church and was formerly a trustee of the same.

ANDREW OLSON.

To the honest, pushing, hard-working and enterprising farmers is due the prosperity, wealth and advancement of any community, and to their zeal, energy and integrity will its future prosperity be indebted, as it has been in the past. Among the names that are prominent in agricultural circles in the northern part of Clay county is that of Andrew Olson, of Felton township.

Mr. Olson was born in Ostra Wemmenhog, Malmohus lan, Sweden, October 11, 1860. He is a son of Olla and Anna (Larson) Larson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the father is still residing, now advanced in age. He devoted his active life to farming in the crop seasons and working in a brewery during the winter months. The mother is deceased. Eight children, two of whom died in infancy, were born to Olla and Anna Larson; six are living at this writing, namely: Inga, who lives in Sweden; Andrew O., the subject of this sketch; Lars, who lives in Sweden; Carl, who lives in Millelaes county, Minnesota, and Kerstie and Per, both of whom make their home in Martin county, this state.

Andrew Olson grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the common schools. He set sail for the shores of the Western republic in 1889, proceeding to Chicago, where he worked in a shop about three months; then worked on a farm near that city for six years, working out and renting during the last three years of that period. He then came to Minnesota, where he farmed on rented land in Martin county for six years. In the fall of 1902 he came to Spring Prairie township, Clay county, where he spent one winter, and in the spring of 1903 he moved to his present farm in Felton township, having bought one hundred and sixty acres there in the fall of 1901. The land was only slightly improved and there was only a small house on it. He put out a grove, erected suitable buildings and has made a comfortable living as a general farmer.

On June 29, 1888, Andrew Olson was married to Matilda Sophia Palmquist, a native of Grolanda, Skaraborgs lan, Sweden. She is a daughter

of Carl and Karin (Sveson) Palmquist, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home on a farm. The father's death occurred there some time ago and the mother is still living there. Their family consisted of the following children: Matilda S., wife of the subject of this sketch; Josephina, who lives in Nebraska; Amanda, who lives in Sweden; Annie, who lives in Helena, Montana; Carl Johan, who makes his home in Sweden, and two other children who died in early life.

To Mr. and Mrs. Olson seven children, all living at this writing, have been born: Sellstine, Annie, Alice, Carl, Ellen, John and Clara. Mrs. Olson spent her girlhood in Sweden and there attended the common schools. She came to America in 1890. Mr. Olson has served as road boss. When a young man in Sweden he was under military training for some time.

P. N. RAMSTAD.

One of the promising young business men of the southern part of Clay county is P. N. Ramstad, manager of the Baker Lumber Company at Baker. He was born at Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, March 8, 1889, a son of Peter and Christina (Skriver) Ramstad, both natives of Norway, the mother born in the city of Christiana. Peter Ramstad came to America as a young man with his parents, the family locating in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where he remained until in the seventies when he came to Minnesota, locating at Ada, and there he and his brother engaged in the general-merchandise business for many years, and while living there he was elected register of deeds, serving in that office several years. He subsequently moved to McDonalds-ville township, Norman county, where he followed farming until his death in 1896. He was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. His family consisted of seven children, Isben L., Carrie V., P. N., Orrin, Ella, Sigurd and Petra.

P. N. Ramstad received his early education in the public schools of Ada and later studied in the agricultural department of the University of Minnesota at St. Anthony Park, St. Paul. After leaving school he worked with the Norman county surveyor for about three summers. During the winter months of that period he attended a business college in Fargo. In July, 1908, Mr. Ramstad started in the retail lumber business and was associated with the St. Anthony & Dakota Elevator Company for three years. He then worked for J. J. Geib at Morris, Minnesota, for eighteen months then spent

a year and a half at Tintah, in the employ of the Crescent Lumber Company. He was then employed by the Nortz Lumber Company at Breckenridge, this state, for six months; then worked for the Kunk Sash and Door Company at Minneapolis for eight months. In April, 1915, he came to Baker as manager of the Baker Lumber Company and has continued here in this capacity ever since. He knows thoroughly the various phases of the lumber business, and has given eminent satisfaction to the firms with which he has been connected, being honest, faithful, industrious, reliable and courteous to the trade.

Mr. Ramstad was married in 1914 to Anna Marie Moebius, a native of Minnesota, and a daughter of Frank and Elizabeth (Ritter) Moebius, natives of Germany. To Mr. and Mrs. Ramstad one child has been born, a son, Carl O. Ramstad. Fraternally, the subject of this sketch is a member of the Yeomen and of the Woodmen.

LARS I. GRINA.

Lars I. Grina, manager, secretary and treasurer of the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company, with head office at Felton, Clay county, was born at Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, June 2, 1876, a son of Iver O. and Olea L. (Ohe) Gerina.

Iver O. Grina has been a resident of Otter Tail county for more than forty years. He was born in Hadeland, Norway, April 1, 1851, and is a son of Ole H. and Martha O. (Moger) Grina, natives of the same country. The parents of Iver O. Grina came to America in 1854, only a few years after their marriage. After crossing the Atlantic, a voyage that covered fifteen weeks, the couple took up their residence in Clayton county, Iowa; later the father bought a farm there on which he spent twenty years, then moved to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where he joined his son, Iver O. Grina. Ole H. Grina bought two hundred and fifty acres of land, where he lived till he died in 1908, he then being eighty-eight years of age. His first wife died in 1874, and he subsequently married Betsey O. Hougtyet, who is also now deceased. By his first wife the following children were born: Hans, who engaged in farming in Otter Tail county, and is now deceased; Ole, a retired farmer of Pelican Rapids, that county; Iver O., father of the subject of this sketch; Peter, a retired farmer of North Dakota; Martin, who is farming in North Dakota; Ellen, who died in Iowa; Edward,

who lives in North Dakota; Mary, the first, and Mary, the second, both of whom died in early life in Iowa, and another child, who died in infancy, unnamed.

Iver O. Grina was reared on the home farm in Clayton county, Iowa, and there attended the public schools. When twenty-one years of age he came to Minnesota, settling in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, purchasing the homestead owned by his brother, Hans. The land, which was only slightly improved, was cleared by Mr. Grina, and in years to come he had one of the choice farms of his locality. He subsequently bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land adjoining the home place. In the fall of 1914 he sold his farm there and bought the homestead originally owned by his father in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, but he never moved to the place, renting it to his son, Joseph. Mr. Grina retired from active life in March, 1914, and moved to Pelican Rapids, Minnesota, where he has erected a modern residence. In 1913 he helped organize the Erhard State Bank, in which he is a director. Politically, he is a Republican, and served as clerk of his school district and as road supervisor while living on the farm. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

On July 17, 1872, Iver O. Grina married Olena L. Ohe, a daughter of Lars and Ingebor (Waterud) Ohe, who were among the earliest settlers of Erhard Grove township, Otter Tail county. The death of Mrs. Grina occurred on February 22, 1914. She was the mother of the following children: Ole, who has lumber interests in Halstad, Minnesota; Lars L., the subject of this sketch; Melvin, who deals in implements, hardware and lumber in Erhard; Conrad, is manager of the local yard of Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company at Borup; Joseph, who died in infancy; Joseph, the second, who is operating his father's farm; Inga and Theodore, who are employed by their brother, Melvin, and Emma, who is at home with her father in Pelican Rapids.

Lars L. Grina, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared on the home farm in Otter Tail county, and attended the public schools at Pelican Rapids. As a young man he started to work for the Stenerson Brothers Lumber Company, and has been with this firm since 1895, or during the past twenty-three years, starting in at Pelican Rapids, where he remained until 1900, when he was transferred to Felton, Clay county, and has been manager of the company's business there ever since, secretary and treasurer of the company since its incorporation in 1908. He is also the largest stockholder in the company and has been the principal factor in making

it one of the best-known and most successful lumber firms in this section of the state. Mr. Grina is a close observer and has thoroughly mastered the various phases of the lumber business, keeping well abreast of the times in the same. He established branch yards some time ago at Borup, Halstad and Erhard, Minnesota, but maintains the managing office at Felton. The business at each place is rapidly growing under his judicious direction and management, a large stock of lumber of all kinds, together with the usual accessories for builders, being carried. The firm also sells fuel, and farm implements and does a large business in each department. The company is also interested in farming lands, owning six hundred and forty acres of valuable land, on which general farming and stock-raising is carried on extensively and successfully.

Lars I. Grina was married to Pansy M. Gilbert, a native of South Dakota. She received her education in the State Normal school of Moorhead, Minnesota, and taught school for a number of years before she was married to Mr. Grina. She is a daughter of Louis and Dorothy (Oker) Gilbert, of Felton, Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Grina three children have been born, namely: Gordon O., Adel Dorothy and Iver E.

JOHN LAHEY.

John Lahey, a well-known farmer of Felton township, Clay county, is making a success of his chosen life work. He was born in Allamakee county, Iowa, on December 19, 1858, a son of Daniel Lahey, who followed farming in that county for many years in the early days there and who is now deceased.

John Lahey grew to manhood on the home farm in his native state, assisting with the general work on the same when a boy, and there he attended the district schools. As a young man he turned his attention to buying and shipping horses and cattle, being an exceptionally good judge of live stock, and he continued successfully in this line for about fifteen years, becoming widely known throughout the Northwest. He shipped large numbers of horses and cattle into Norman county when this section of the state of Minnesota was being settled and was quite successful in this field of endeavor.

About the year 1897 Mr. Lahey bought the farm on which he now resides in Felton township, Clay county, and there he has made his home



JOHN LATHEY.

since about 1905. He operates four hundred acres, a part of which lies in Felton township, Clay county, and part in Winchester township, Norman county. The excellent modern group of farm buildings, which he erected himself, are in Felton township. The land was a bare prairie when he purchased it, but he has long had it all under a high state of cultivation. He set out a large grove which is now a valuable asset. He has been quite successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and has also given his active attention to the general business affairs of the community in which he lives, being a stockholder in the company which operates the co-operative potato warehouse at Borup, a stockholder in the Felton Rural Telephone Company and a stockholder in the Equity Packing Plants at Fargo, in the affairs of all of which concerns he takes a warm interest. Mr. Lahey was reared a Catholic. Politically, he is independent of party, reserving his right to vote for the men and the measures he regards as most serviceable to the public at large.

ANDREW CHRISTIANSON.

Andrew Christianson, a farmer of Eglon township, Clay county, was born in Norway in 1870. He is a son of Knut C. and Parnelia (Rasmussen) Christianson, both natives of Norway, where the mother now resides, at the age of eighty years. The father died in 1896, at the age of sixty-eight years. He came to America about thirty-eight years ago and in the spring of 1880 bought railroad land in Eglon township, Clay county, Minnesota, the place on which his son Andrew, now resides. Here he went to work with a will and in due course of time had a good farm under cultivation and a very comfortable home established. He was in the county about a year before he selected a site for his future home, finally buying the place on which he spent the rest of his life. He lived in a log house for a number of years. His family consisted of six children, named as follow: Christian, who is married and who lived in Clay county until the autumn of 1916, when he removed to Detroit, Minnesota; Seivert, who is married and lives in Eglon township; Andrew, the subject of this sketch; Jacob, who lives on the home farm part of the time; Oscar, who resides in North Dakota, and Peter, who lives on the old homestead with the subject of this sketch.

Andrew Christianson was two and one-half years of age when his parents brought him to Minnesota. He was reared on the home farm in Clay county, received his education in the district schools, has always fol-

lowed farming and has kept the home farm well improved and well cultivated. He built a new residence in 1911. Mr. Christianson owns two hundred acres in section 21 and forty acres in section 7 of Eglon township. He built a large, modern granary in the summer of 1917. He raises a large amount of grain and considerable live stock each year. He planted a fine grove some years ago. He raises a large acreage of potatoes each year, having had out fifteen acres in the summer of 1917, his land being in the great northern potato belt. Mr. Christianson is unmarried. He is a member of the Hegland Norwegian Lutheran church.

JOHN GEORGE PERKINS

One of the progressive citizens of Hawley, Cromwell township, is John George Perkins, who has long made his home in Clay county, the interests of which he has ever had at heart and sought to promote. He was born in Flinthan, Nottinghamshire, England, November 6, 1853, a son of William and Ann (Long) Perkins, both also natives of Nottinghamshire, the father born at Flinthan and the mother at Elston. They married in their native land, and there they continued to reside until 1873, when they came to Minnesota with the first English colony that settled at Hawley, in Clay county. Here William Perkins, father of John G., took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, in the spring of 1873, selecting a good tract in section 30 of Cromwell township. He developed the land into a productive farm, established a comfortable home and spent the rest of his life there. He made all improvements on the place, erecting the buildings and planting a grove, planting the first trees in that neighborhood. He also took up two tree claims. William Perkins had been a soldier in the old country, serving as a Yeoman cavalryman in a "Notts" (Nottinghamshire) regiment. He was a Methodist and helped organize the first church at Hawley. He also helped organize Cromwell township, and was for many years a member of the township board. He was one of the influential men in his locality, always active in public affairs, and was at one time a candidate on the People's party for county commissioner. He was one of the best-known and useful pioneers in Cromwell township, and highly respected by all who knew him. His family consisted of five children, named as follow: John G., the subject of this sketch; Mary Ann and Maria, who are both living; Sarah, deceased, and Charles, who is living on the old home place in Cromwell township.

John G. Perkins grew up in England, there attended the public schools and Besthorp boarding school and was twenty years of age when he came to the United States with his parents. He helped his father start the family home in Cromwell township, working hard, as did all sons of pioneer settlers in those days. In 1876 he began life for himself by pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres in section 18 of Cromwell township; later converted eighty acres of it to a homestead, and still later homesteaded an adjoining fifty-five acres. He also tree-claimed a quarter section in section 8 of the same township and now has one of the choice farms of his locality, having erected a modern and substantial group of buildings on it, placed it under a fine state of cultivation and has set out a large grove, which is now very attractive. He has met with much more than mediocre success, all along the line, as a general farmer and stock raiser as a result of his perseverance and close application.

In 1884 Mr. Perkins was married to Sarah Jane Harper, who was born in Canada. She is a daughter of John Harper, now deceased, who moved from Canada to Minnesota, locating at New York Mills, in Otter Tail county, where he established the future home of the family. Thirteen children were born to John G. Perkins and wife, namely: John William, Elsie May, Annie Maude, Hazel, Eleanor, Frederick Lawrence, Earl, Pearl, James, Blanche, all living, and George and Frederick, who died young. The mother of these children died in 1910.

Politically, Mr. Perkins is a non-partisan. He was township assessor a number of years ago and also was constable in the old days, when there was considerable lawlessness and when the duties of such an officer were much more strenuous than now. He has also served on the local school board in various capacities.

ANDREW L. JELSING.

Each man who strives to fulfill his part in connection with human life and human activities is deserving of recognition, no matter what may be the field of his endeavor, for it is interesting to note the varying conditions that have compassed those whose careers are brought to the attention of the readers of history.

An enterprising merchant of the village of Dale, Highland Grove township, Clay county, is Andrew L. Jelsing, who was born in Dodge county,

Minnesota, March 6, 1870. He is a son of Lars Pederson Jelsing and Maria Jelsing, both natives of Norway. The father came to America in 1861, leaving his wife in the old country until he could establish the future home of the family in the New World. After spending two years near Madison, Wisconsin, Lars Pederson Jelsing, in 1863, returned to Norway, intending not to return to America, but he subsequently came back and located in Dodge county, Minnesota. He had not been there long until he was drafted for service in the Civil War, but he hired a substitute. He brought his wife and three sons back to America with him. She was Anna Bang prior to her marriage, and their three children were named as follow: Peter, who is living, and Martin and Peder, deceased. The wife and mother died in Dodge county, and later Lars Pederson Jelsing married Maria Christensen and to that union four children were born, all of whom survive at this writing, namely: Andrew L., the subject of this sketch; Randine, Hannah and Louisa. The father of these children continued farming in Dodge county until 1871, when he moved his family to Clay county in a covered wagon and bought railroad land in Eglon township, on which he established the future home of the family; but two years later bought a homestead right, just across the line in Becker county, of eighty acres, and lived there until 1893, later adding to his original holdings until he had a total of three hundred and twenty acres. He carried on general farming extensively and brought his place up to a high state of improvement. He retired from active life in 1891, but continued to reside there until 1893, and thereafter spent the rest of his life among his children. His second wife died in 1880. In 1883 he made another trip to Norway. He helped organize Lake Park township, Becker county, and also helped to organize Solum Lutheran church in Eglon township. His death occurred in Moorhead on March 10, 1908.

Andrew L. Jelsing grew to manhood on the home farm. He attended the district schools and was a student for three years in the State Normal at Moorhead, living at home until he was twenty-one years old. He began life for himself as a teacher, which profession he followed for five years, in Becker and Clay counties, with marked success. He then took up grain buying at Winnipeg Junction, Clay county (which place is no longer on the map), and continued grain buying, for the most part, until the summer of 1908. In the meantime he served as justice of the peace and village recorder and also was a member of the school board. He helped incorporate the village, but when the railroad was relaid through the county, missing Winnipeg Junction by one mile, the town soon became extinct, its inhabit-

ants moving to other places. Mr. Jelsing started the village of Dale, in Highland Grove township, where he has since resided. He purchased the townsite and laid out the town, built a store and began a general-merchandise business, which he has conducted with ever-increasing success to the present time, carrying a large and well-selected stock of goods and enjoying an excellent trade with the people of the surrounding country. He was active in securing a postoffice for the town and was appointed postmaster when the office was first established, in March, 1910, and has discharged the duties of the same ever since. He is a notary public and is clerk of the local school board. He was formerly justice of the peace at Dale. As a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able, faithful and acceptable manner, always taking a great interest in the affairs of his locality. Politically, he is a Republican, and, religiously, he belongs to the Lutheran church, being active in the work of the same.

On February 15, 1898, Mr. Jelsing was married to Lena L. Bjerke, a native of Lake Park township, Becker county. She is a daughter of the late Lars C. Bjerke, and was born on January 29, 1873. Her father was one of the early homesteaders of that township. Mr. and Mrs. Jelsing have no children of their own, but they have an adopted daughter, June Jelsing, whom they have had from infancy.

EDWARD A. TRONNES.

Edward A. Tronnes, a substantial and progressive farmer, and stockman of Hagen township, this county, owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres in that township, chairman of the township board and interested in public utilities, is a native son of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-two years old, having immigrated in 1887. He was born on September 13, 1865, a son of Andrew and Carrie (Tronnes) Tronnes, both born in Norway, where they spent all their lives, Andrew Tronnes having been a farmer and engaged at that calling all his life. They were the parents of the following children: Andrew, Haaken, Edward A., Helge, Cornelius, Bertha, Carrie, Annie and an infant daughter. They were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Edward A. Tronnes was educated in the schools of Norway and assisted his father in the work of cultivating the small farm of which the

senior Tronnes was the owner. In 1887, at the age of twenty-two years, Edward A. Tronnes immigrated to America and proceeded out to Minnesota on arrival, locating in Norman county, and bought a homestead right to one hundred and sixty acres of land in Home Lake township and lived there five years, but did not prove up. At the end of the latter period he sold his right in the homestead and then took eighty acres of homestead land in section 20, in Hagen township, Clay county, and proved up. He carried out many valuable improvements and lived on that holding for about ten years, at the end of which time he sold out and bought two hundred acres in Hagen township, where he has since lived. Some time later he added another quarter section in section 16, same township, and has several substantial buildings on the holdings, including a good barn, which Mr. Tronnes erected. He has also set out a fine grove that adds considerably to the appearance and value of the place. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising and since the very commencement of his operations has prospered, being now accounted one of the most substantial and progressive farmers in Hagen township.

Immediately before leaving his native Norway, in 1887, Edward A. Tronnes was united in marriage to Oleanna Olson, also a native of Norway and a daughter of Ole and Carrie Olson, who spent all their lives in that country. To Mr. and Mrs. Tronnes the following children were born: Alfred, Ella, Clara, Minnie, Inga, Melvin and Amanda, all of whom are living. The Tronnes family are members of the Lutheran church, the Jewnagers Lutheran church having at its organization had valuable help from Mr. Tronnes, although he was at the time living across the line in Norman county.

Mr. Tronnes gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and he has now entered on his first year as township chairman and has been a member of the township board for about thirteen years, serving the people with fidelity and ability. He is interested in the Farmers store and also in the Farmers creamery at Ulen, in the organization of which he proved a valuable aid. He also assisted in the organization of the local telephone company, known as the Ulen and Twin Valley Telephone Company, and in other ways he has given of his time and energies to the advancement of all movements calculated to serve the public interests.

All of Mr. Tronnes' brothers and sisters, with the exception of Annie and Haaken, remained in Norway. Annie is now Mrs. Martin Tronnes, of Wisconsin, whose husband was born in Norway, in which country they were married. Haaken was the first of the Tronnes family to come to Amer-

ica. He located in Morris county, Minnesota, and in 1884 came to Norman county and filed on a homestead tract in Home Lake township, but never proved up. He later moved to Thief River Falls, Minnesota, and at the present time is living in Montana.

HANS L. NORBY.

Hans L. Norby, of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, has made a success as a farmer very largely because he has been willing to give up many of the old and antiquated ideas of tilling the soil and has adopted such new ones as were practicable in this latitude.

Mr. Norby was born in Norway in 1851. He is a son of Lars and Martha Henson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the mother died, in 1858, when her son Hans L., was about seven years of age. The father finally came to America and spent the last three years of his life at the home of his son, the subject of this sketch, where his death occurred in 1907, he then being at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. He owned farming land in Becker county, Minnesota, which he sold when old age incapacitated him for active farming. The family consisted of five children, namely: Hans L., the subject of this sketch, the eldest; Mary, a widow, who lives in North Dakota; Jens, who also makes his home in North Dakota; Carrie, deceased, and Ole, a resident of South Dakota.

Hans L. Norby grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. When twenty-three years of age, in 1874, he immigrated to the United States and began working out on farms near Mankato and Albert Lea, Minnesota. After his marriage he worked at the carpenter's trade. He came to Clay county and lived a year in Lake Park, then, in the fall of 1879, he moved to his present farm in Goose Prairie township, taking up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14. Mr. Norby worked hard and applied himself closely and in due course of time had the raw land under a fine state of cultivation. He made all improvements, including the erection of a splendid group of buildings. During his residence of thirty-eight years on this place he has accumulated a comfortable competency and is now able to retire from active life, even now (1917) planning to sell or rent his place and move to Hawley, where he has long owned a commodious home and a large lot, which has been rented out.

In 1878, in Mankato, Minnesota, Hans L. Norby was married to Anna Thoreson, who was born in Norway in 1852, and who came to America in 1876 with Mr. Norby's father, two brothers and a sister. To Mr. and Mrs. Norby nine children have been born, namely: Theodore, who has a farm in North Dakota; Inga, who is married and lives in Colorado; Alma, who died in 1889, when four years of age; Albert, who lives at home; Alma the second, who works in North Dakota; Oscar, who is at home; Laura, who is married and lives in Montana; John, who is married and has a jewelry store in Clear Brook, Minnesota, and Nellie, who is at home.

Mr. Norby has been supervisor of Goose Prairie township at intervals for twenty years. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he has been a trustee for fifteen years, and has ever given proper attention to neighborhood good works.

ROBERT L. SCOTT.

Some farmers who have cropped their soils from year to year, taking everything off and returning nothing, when their crops fall off in yield until there are no profits, begin to realize that they will have to adopt a new system or else abandon their farm. Those who are wise look ahead and take proper steps to prevent such a deplorable state of affairs from ever coming. Robert L. Scott is one of the young farmers of Viding township, Clay county, who believes in conserving the soil elements, in keeping his land from ever wearing out.

Mr. Scott was born at Polo, in Ogle county, Illinois, February 6, 1881, a son of J. W. and Bessie (Lawson) Scott, who remained in Illinois, on the home farm. He grew to manhood on the farm near Polo, assisting with the general work on the same when he became of proper age, and received his education in the schools of Polo, graduating from the high school there. He remained on the farm with his parents until he was twenty-two years old, then, in the spring of 1903, he came to Minnesota and located on a farm in Viding township, Clay county, and here he has remained to the present time. He operates eleven hundred and twenty acres, carrying on general grain farming and potato raising on an extensive scale, specializing in Red River Valley seed potatoes, which he produces in great quantities every year. He understands every phase of successful

potato raising and his fine tubers find a very ready market owing to their superior quality.

On December 18, 1902, Robert L. Scott was married to Emma Elizabeth Brantner, who also was born at Polo, in Ogle county, Illinois, and to this union three children have been born, Bessie Mabel, Jasper Michael, and Joseph Winfield. Mrs. Scott is one of the eleven children, two sons and nine daughters, born to Joseph M. and Anna (Nye) Brantner, both of whom were born in Ogle county, Illinois, the former at Polo and the latter at Mt. Morris. Mr. Brantner is now a prominent farmer at Lime Springs, Iowa. Of the eleven children born to him and his wife all are living.

Mr. Scott is an advocate of advanced farming methods and keeps well read along these lines. He is vice-president of the Clay County Farm Bureau and has done much to make that influential organization a pronounced success. He was formerly township supervisor and has also held offices on the school board. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. Politically, he is a Republican.

BERNARD F. TENNEY.

Bernard F. Tenney, cashier and general manager of the First State Bank of Ada and for years one of the leading business men of Norman county, is a native of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of Minnesota practically all the time since his childhood. He was born in Sandusky, Ohio, May 1, 1868, son of Major Luman H. and Frances D. (Andrews) Tenney, natives of that same state, who later came to Minnesota and became prominent and influential residents of this part of the state in pioneer days.

Major Luman H. Tenney, who took a very active part in the development of this part of the state during the time of the early settlement of this section, was reared in Ohio and was little more than a boy when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted as a private in the Second Ohio Cavalry and served with that command until the close of the war, being mustered out as a brevet major. Upon the completion of his military service Major Tenney married and made his home in Sandusky, Ohio, until 1869, when he came to Minnesota and located at Duluth, where he engaged in the real estate and insurance business. In 1872, about the time of the organization of Clay

county as a civic entity, the Major came over to this part of the state and located at Glyndon, where he acted as the agent for a Philadelphia company in the sale of lands thereabout and also took an active interest in promoting the English colony which settled in that neighborhood. Major Tenney also operated a general store at Glyndon and started the Northern Pacific elevator there and at some other points along the line. Upon locating there he took a soldier's homestead and later considerably increased his personal land holdings. In addition to his other and varied interests, Major Tenney gave much attention to the general affairs of the community during the period of the establishment of a proper social order in that section and served for some time as superintendent of schools of Clay county, doing much in that capacity toward the organization of an effective school system in the pioneer community. His busy and useful career was interrupted in the very prime of his life, his death occurring in 1880, he then being thirty-eight years of age. Major Tenney was an active and earnest member of the Congregational church and was one of the leaders in the organization of a church of that denomination at Glyndon. He was an ardent advocate of temperance and his influence in that direction was felt far and wide throughout this section in an early day. Major and Mrs. Tenney were the parents of four children.

Bernard F. Tenney was but an infant when his parents came to this state from Ohio and settled at Duluth, and he was but a small child when they presently moved over to Glyndon. There he spent his boyhood and then was sent East to complete his schooling, attending Oberlin College in Ohio and Amherst College in Massachusetts, from which latter institution he was graduated in 1890, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Upon completing his schooling Mr. Tenney returned to Glyndon and for a time gave his attention to farming interests there, but presently returned to Ohio, where he remained until 1903, in which year he came back to Minnesota and with his business associates bought control of the First State Bank of Ada and was elected vice-president of that concern, being installed as general manager of the affairs of the bank. Mr. Tenney later was elected cashier of the bank and ever since forming connection with the bank has given his most earnest attention to the same, long having been recognized as one of the leading bankers of this part of the state.

In 1895 Bernard F. Tenney was united in marriage to Sadie A. Snedeker, of Melbourne, Florida, and to that union four children have been born, namely: Mary Frances, Laman H., who is now (1917) a member of the American Ambulance Field Service, serving "somewhere in the Balkans"

in the great World War; Edward A., who is serving in the United States Marine Corps, serving "somewhere in the United States," and William H., who is attending school at home. Mr. and Mrs. Tenney are members of the Congregational church, in the various beneficences of which they take a warm interest, as well as in the general social activities of their home city, ever helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare hereabout.

OLE D. LARSON.

Ole D. Larson, present president of the village of Hendrum and the oldest merchant in point of continuous service in that village, a well-to-do dealer in hardware and agricultural implements, may also be regarded as a pioneer of Norman county, having been actively identified with the affairs of Hendrum and vicinity since 1882. He was born in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, February 11, 1860, son of Lars and Martha (Johanneson) Knutson, both natives of Norway, who were married in their native land and shortly afterward, in 1852, came to the United States, locating at Port Washington, Wisconsin, whence, a year later, they moved onto a homestead farm in Manitowoc county, that same state, where they remained until 1883, when they came over into Minnesota and located on a farm in the neighborhood of Glenwood, in Pope county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Knutson died in 1906 and Mr. Knutson survived until 1911, he being ninety-three years of age at the time of his death. They were earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being Knute (deceased), Johannes (deceased), Bertha, Knute, who lives in Canada; Gabriel (deceased), Lizzie, who lives at Nome, Alaska; Martin and Clara (deceased).

Reared on a pioneer farm, Ole D. Larson had little opportunity for acquiring extensive schooling in his youth. As a young man he learned the carpenter trade and for twelve years was actively engaged in building operations. In 1882, he then being twenty-two years of age, he had come over into Minnesota and up into the Red River Valley to take part in the then flourishing activities of this part of the state, and at Hendrum became engaged as a carpenter. After his marriage in 1891 he established his home there and for a while continued his building operations, but in 1892 started in business there as a hardware dealer and has ever since been thus engaged.

being now the oldest merchant in continuous business in that village. In addition to his general line of hardware and agricultural implements, Mr. Larson carries an excellent stock of furniture and is also the local agent for the sale of the Overland automobile. He holds a claim to a tract of one hundred and twenty acres in Koochiching county. Mr. Larson for years has given his earnest attention to local civic affairs, has served as a member of the village council and as treasurer of the village and is now serving as president of the village, in all his public service having ever had at heart the best interests of the community which he has helped to build up. At five or six terms of court he has served as a member of the jury in Norman county.

It was on December 23, 1891, that Ole D. Larson was united in marriage to Emma Bye, of Spring Grove, Minnesota, and to this union five children have been born, Alva, Edmond (deceased), Edmond, Arnold and Viola. Mr. and Mrs. Larson are members of the United Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take a warm interest, and Mr. Larson has served as a member of the board of trustees, as treasurer and in other capacities as an office bearer in the local congregation.

JOHN LUDWIG SCHEIE.

The late John Ludwig Scheie, one of the early settlers of Halstad township, Norman county, where he was the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of good farming land when his death occurred in 1904, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, December 2, 1855, a son of Andrew and Inger Scheie, both of whom were born in Norway, where they grew up and married and who came to America about 1839 or 1840. At first the father, who was a cooper by trade, located in Rochester, New York, but desiring to acquire some of the new land which was being opened up for settlement in the West, gradually worked his way with his family in this direction and settled for a while in McHenry county, Illinois, moving thence northward into Wisconsin, settling in Muskego and later in Milwaukee, where John Ludwig Scheie was born. The date of the family's residence in the latter place was so early that only a few houses comprised the village which later has grown into such a metropolis. After a few years of residence in Wisconsin, the family moved into Minnesota and located in Fillmore county, from which point they later came up into this part of the state and settled in Halstad township, Norman county, where the parents spent the

remainder of their lives. During his residence in Halstad township, Andrew Scheie lived the life of the pioneer that he was, developing his farm and, in his later years, preaching the gospel, as he was one of the first Lutheran ministers in this section of the country. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, all of whom are dead but Anthony, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere in this volume, the others having been Ellen Christina, Anna, Hannah, Melvina, Caroline and John, the subject of this memorial review.

John L. Scheie was only three years of age when his parents settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, in 1858, and when they decided to come northward into Norman county, in 1876, he too, came to this county in the same year, in company with B. B. Larson and others from Fillmore county, and settled a quarter section in Halstad township, where he lived until 1892. In that year he moved to an adjoining place, where his family still resides, and there died on October 3, 1904, lamented by all who knew him as an upright man, a good neighbor, an excellent citizen and a loving parent and husband.

On November 4, 1876, John L. Scheie was married to Bessie Thompson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Knut and Bessie (Fossom) Fossom, both natives of Norway, who came to America late in life and located near Peterson, Fillmore county, Minnesota, on a farm where they spent the rest of their lives. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Gilbert (deceased), Irvine, Tollef, Knut, Ole, Carrie, Ragnild (deceased) and Bessie. To Mr. and Mrs. John Ludwig Scheie were born three children, the eldest of whom is Emilie Bertina, who married Joseph Forbragd and has three children; Lutie, Willis and Lemoine. Mr. Forbragd now operates the old Scheie farm. The second in order of birth is Clara Albertina, the wife of Ole Strom. They live in Newburg, North Dakota, and are the parents of six children, Lester, Irvine, Clifford, Walter, Morten and Orland. The youngest of the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Scheie is Lottie Jeannette, who lives with her widowed mother on the old home place.

Mr. Scheie, although a very busy man, found time to devote to the interests of education in his community, as he served as school clerk for a number of years. As a business, he followed well-drilling and for the most part hired his farming done. He was always concerned with the furtherance of the cause of Christianity, even out in the frontier districts of the North, as he, in company with his father, who was a pioneer minister, and a few others organized the Augustana Lutheran church.

JENS FOSS.

Jens Foss, a well-known and enterprising merchant of Shelly, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years of age. He was born in the city of Drammen, a seaport town of Norway, July 2, 1874, son of Erick J. and Berthine (Anderson) Fossen, natives of that same country, the former of whom was a carpenter, who spent all his life in his native land. Erick J. Fossen and wife were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Caroline, Andrew, Bernhard and Anna.

Reared at Drammen, Jens Foss received his schooling in the schools of that city and remained there until he was nineteen years of age, when, in 1893, he came to the United States and located at Portland, over in Traill county, North Dakota, where he secured employment and where he presently entered Bruhat Academy, perfecting there his somewhat limited knowledge of English. After a while he engaged in the mercantile business at Portland, as a partner in a general store, and after two years, in 1902, came over into Minnesota and started a general store at Shelly, in partnership with Carl Horte, also of Portland. In 1912 Mr. Horte sold his interest in the store to Foss Anderson and the latter and Mr. Foss have since been engaged in partnership and have built up an excellent commercial establishment, having a flourishing trade. Mr. Foss also owns a quarter of a section of land in Polk county and gives to his farming operations there considerable attention. He is an energetic, capable business man and is widely known in business circles hereabout.

In 1907 Jens Foss was united in marriage to Josephine Flesjer, who was born on a pioneer farm in the vicinity of Shelly, daughter of B. A. Flesjer and wife, pioneers of Norman county, the former of whom is still living, making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Foss at Shelly. B. A. Flesjer was born at Stavanger, Norway, May 15, 1850, and when twenty years of age, in 1870, came to the United States and located in Fillmore county, this state. There, in 1872, he married Olava Olson Holte and in that same year he and his wife came up into the Red River valley and settled in Shelly township, Norman county, where they established their home and where Mrs. Flesjer died in 1910. Mr. Flesjer was one of the organizers of the Augustana (Lutheran) church in that neighborhood and he and his wife took much interest in church work. They were the parents of eight children, of whom Mrs. Foss was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Emelia,

Bernhardt, Albert, Orlando, Palmer, Melissa and Manley. In 1915 Mr. Flesjer retired from the farm and moved to Shelly, where he since has made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Foss.

To Jens and Josephine (Flesjer) Foss two children have been born, Frances and Orpha. Mr. and Mrs. Foss are members of the United Lutheran church at Shelly and Mr. Foss has been a member of the board of trustees of that congregation ever since it was organized. He is a member of the local society of the Sons of Norway and of the local lodge of the Woodmen of America and in the affairs of these organizations takes an active interest.

IVER KLOKSETH.

Among the native-born Norwegians who have come to America and engaged in general farming, is Iver Klokseth, a well-known and progressive farmer, former clerk of the district school board, and owner of a fine farm in Moland township, Clay county. He was born on October 30, 1868, in the kingdom of Norway, a son of Knut and Malena (Wold) Klokseth, also born in that same country, but who came to this country about thirty-nine years ago.

Knut Klokseth, who followed the occupation of a farmer in his native land, was born on October 17, 1825. He married in Norway to Malena Wold and about the year 1878 decided to try his fortune in the land of opportunities at this side of the Atlantic. On his arrival in this country he came on out to Minnesota, where so many of his countrymen had already settled on farms, and located in Clay county. He became the owner of one hundred and fifty acres of prime land, on which he farmed for the remainder of his life, his death occurring on July 29, 1892. His farm, which was located in section 4, Moland township, was sold about fifteen years ago and the widow is now making her home with her son, Iver. Knut Klokseth was an industrious and capable farmer, a good citizen in every respect, a kind and indulgent husband and father, and his death was generally regretted throughout the community.

Iver Klokseth, at the age of about ten years, accompanied his parents to America and lived on his father's farm in Moland township. Before coming to this country he had been attending school in Norway and continued his schooling in the township schools of Clay county. In his boyhood and

young manhood he was a valuable assistant to his father in the labors of developing and improving the home place. The other members of the family are: Ingeborg (Emma in English), who is married; Ida, married; Christine, married, and Martin, married and living in Morken township.

Iver Klokseth bought his present farm, which now consists of two hundred and thirty-seven acres, about 1893. The land, which is of choice quality and well improved, is situated in section 7, Moland township, and thirty acres are set out to the planting and cultivation of potatoes. Mr. Klokseth is regarded as one of the progressive and energetic farmers of the township and he and his family are pleasantly housed in a comfortable dwelling.

Mr. Klokseth was married on January 27, 1892, to Hannah Holte, who was born on October 13th, 1871, in Houston county, Minnesota, and who died on May 28th, 1913. Three children were born to this union, namely: Corinne, who is married, and Marie and Julia, who live at home with their father. Mr. Klokseth and his family are earnest members of the Lutheran church at Concordia, and he has served the congregation as trustee for several years. He was clerk of the township school board for six years and in other ways he has given of his time and energy to the public in behalf of all projects having for their purpose the common good of the community.

LEVI THORTVEDT.

To a visitor from the East one of the most impressive features of life here in the Red River valley is the sense of the amazing newness of things. When it is considered that men still in the very prime of life were witnesses to and participants in the very beginning of a social order hereabout this sense of newness is accounted for. That all the wonderful development of this region has been accomplished within the life-time of persons still active in affairs is one of the wonders of the great work of "empire building" that has been carried on in the Northwest during the past generation, and it is difficult for the Easterner to reconcile himself to the thought that all this has been accomplished during a single lifetime.

One of the men who has been a resident of Clay county since the days of the early settlement of the same is Levi Thortvedt, a substantial farmer and landowner on the banks of Buffalo river in Moland township, who has been a resident of the place on which he is now living, in sections 28 and 29, since the summer of 1870, when his father pre-empted the place and



MR. AND MRS. OLE G. THORNTON.



LEVI THORTVEIT AND FAMILY.

there established his home, thus being one of the earliest settlers of Clay county. Levi Thortvedt was born in the kingdom of Norway on January 31, 1860, son of Ole G. and Thone (Songedahl) Thortvedt, natives of that same country, who shortly afterward came to the United States with their family and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Houston county, where Ole G. Thortvedt bought a tract of forty acres of land and established his home, remaining there until he came up here into the Red River country, leader of what came to be known as the Buffalo River settlement.

Ole G. Thortvedt was a good farmer and a man of push and energy and had, besides, the true pioneer instinct. In the spring of 1870 he became attracted to the good reports that then were being heard regarding the possibilities awaiting settlers in the Red River country, which at that time was little known to white men save the Hudson Bay trappers and a few adventurous souls that had pushed on out beyond the frontier. He interested two or three other families in his design, disposed of his interests in Houston county, equipped a fleet of "prairie schooners" in company with the Skrei family, H. Fendalstveit, O. G. Midgarden and George G. Muhle. O. G. Midgarden later married Jorand Thortvedt, sister of the subject of this sketch. This party started out by ox-team in quest of a new home in the unsettled lands to the north, taking its departure on May 14, 1870. When they reached Alexandria, where the land office then was located, they fell in with Ole Stronval, who had previously visited the Red River country, and he consented to accompany them on their trip north and to act as guide. By the 11th of July they were in the vicinity of the Hudson Bay post at Georgetown and they spent the Fourth on the Dakota side—Dakota was then a territory. Pitching camp there, Ole G. Thortvedt left the teams and most of the party and with two of the other men struck south on foot, "spying out the land." Reaching a point five miles south of the present site of Fargo they decided that the land was too low and that they also were getting into somewhat too close proximity to what might prove to be hostile Indians, as they heard they were on the "war-path." Returning to their camp, which had been pitched on the Dakota side of the Red, they having come up the west trail, they took up the journey, crossing the river at Hutchinson's ferry, and set out south on the Minnesota side. Presently they encountered Propfield, who had been employed here by the Hudson Bay Company since 1858 and when he found that their chief difficulty was the belief that the land was too low for profitable settlement he advised them to seek lands on the banks of the Buffalo and volunteered to guide them thence and if this proved not to be just the kind of land they wanted, they had better go back home as it was the best in the

Northwest. In due time they pitched their camp on the banks of the river and beheld before them a fine prospect of good high ground covered with a rank growth of prairie grass, and there they decided to settle. And this was the beginning of the Buffalo River settlement.

At first the land was not surveyed. One day our subject and his sister were attending their muskrat traps at the river. All of a sudden they heard voices and saw men with red, blue and yellow coats plunging into the river. The frightened boy and girl left the traps and ran screaming to the house—"Indians are coming." The father came from the woods and on investigation he found it was the surveyors who had come to survey the land.

Ole G. Thortvedt pre-empted a quarter of a section in what presently, when the county was surveyed, was found to lie in sections 28 and 29, the site of the original camp of the Thortvedt party, and there put up a log shack and established his home, determined to give the new country a try-out for ten years; with the reservation that if in that time other settlers were not attracted to the scene he would return to Houston county. But it was not long until the excellence of the location began to attract others and presently a thriving settlement was established in that part of the county, although the first crops were destroyed by grasshoppers. From the beginning Mr. Thortvedt was regarded as a leader in the community and when the township was organized he was given the privilege of naming the same, which he did by giving to it the name of his old home parish, Moland, in Norway. As he developed his quarter section, all of which was prairie land save for a fringe of trees along the river bank, he erected new and more commodious buildings and it was not long before he and his family had a comfortable home. He later bought an adjoining "forty" of railroad land at one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre, and still later, when settlers began to come in and land values began to advance, bought an "eighty," paying for the latter tract seven dollars and fifty cents an acre. When the Buffalo River settlement was started the nearest real trading point was at Alexandria, one hundred and forty miles away, and thence the settlers were compelled to drive for their necessities, the nearer trading point at the Hudson Bay Company's post at Georgetown charging such exorbitant prices for goods as to make trading there practically prohibitive save on emergency. At that time there was a vehicle known as the Red River cart, a two-wheel rig, very clumsy, drawn by oxen and driven by half-breed Indians. This was the only means of transportation at that time. The creak and noise of the wooden cart wheels could be heard for miles. Sometimes as many as ninety carts would be seen in a train hauling furs for the Hudson Bay Company from Ft. Gary

to St. Cloud and took supplies back again for that company. Ole G. Thortvedt and his wife spent the remainder of their lives in the home they had established on the banks of the Buffalo river, honored and influential pioneers of Clay county. They were members of the Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the local congregation of that faith in the community which they went through many hardships to help establish. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Jorand, Thone and Signe.

About 1905, at a grain growers' convention in Fargo, James Hill, the late great railroad magnate, was present and made a speech and at that time said in April, 1871, he had stopped at a homesteader's cabin on Buffalo river. Our subject was present and there was recalled to his mind the incident of two pilgrims stopping at his father's home. One of them was the justly-famous great railroad financier.

Levi Thortvedt was but a babe in arms when his parents came to Minnesota from their native Norway and he was ten years of age when they left Houston county and came up into the Red River country. He therefore has been a resident of this region since the days before Clay county was organized as a civic unit and has been a witness to and a participant in the development of the county since pioneer days, a continuous resident of the place his father pre-empted here in 1870 and which was the social center of that community in the days of the beginning of the Buffalo River settlement, the date of the settlement of the Thortvedt family there having been July 9, 1870. Though his formal schooling necessarily was neglected by reason of the lack of properly organized schools during pioneer days, Mr. Thortvedt has made up for that lack by wide and comprehensive reading and has long been regarded as one of the best-informed men in his community, as well as one of the most progressive and substantial farmers.. He is the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and forty-two acres and the new set of buildings he has erected on his place are electrically lighted, the first buildings on the Buffalo river thus to be lighted, Mr. Thortvedt securing his current from a water-power plant of his own invention erected some years ago on his farm. Mr. Thortvedt carries on his farming in accordance with up-to-date methods and is doing very well. As one of the first settlers in that community, Mr. Thortvedt has always taken an earnest interest in the development of the same and has done his share in promoting public improvements, ever taking an interested part in such movements as have been designed to advance the common welfare.

In 1882 Levi Thortvedt was united in marriage to Ingeborg Midgaarden Weum, who also was born in the kingdom of Norway and who came alone to this country in 1880. To this union ten children have been born, Ole, Goodwin, Elpha, Dora, Stella, Adela, Orrabel, Eva, Florence and Norman, all of whom are living. The Thortvedts have a very pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live. They are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work as well as in other neighborhood good works.

JOSEPH GAARE

Joseph Gaare, cashier of the First State Bank of Perley, is one of the wideawake young business men of Norman county. He was born in Lee township, this county, May 4, 1884, on the old home farm, a son of John O. and Anna (Kroshus) Gaare. The father was born in Norway, October 13, 1858, and the mother was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Ole Gaare, the grandfather, was a native of Norway, as was also his wife, Sigrid. They came to America in 1866, locating in Allamakee county, Iowa, remaining there until about 1880, when they came to Minnesota, accompanied by their son, John O. Gaare, father of the subject of this sketch, and settled in Norman county, where the grandfather spent the rest of his life. He was a farm. His family consisted of the following children: John O., Peter O., Carrie, the wife of Ferdinand Baker, and Peder, who died when thirty years of age.

John O. Gaare was eight years of age when his parents brought him to the New World, and he grew to manhood on the farm in Allamakee county, Iowa, where he attended the public schools. About 1880 he came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Clay county. Later he bought a farm in Lee township, Norman county, and operated both places for many years, farming on an extensive scale and meeting with much success, now being the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of good farm land. For the past thirty years Mr. Gaare has lived in Lee township, Norman county. His wife died in 1908. He has been in some official position in his school district for the past twenty-five years, and is treasurer at present. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is secretary at this writing. His family consists of the following children: Clara, Joseph, Oscar, Selmer, Peter, Josephine, Hilda, Alice, Alberta and Emil.

Joseph Gaare, the immediate subject of this sketch, grew to manhood on the home farm and received his early education in the public schools of Lee township. Later he was a student in the State Normal School at Moorhead and then took a course in the Metropolitan Business College at Minneapolis. After leaving school he taught one term in Norman county, then spent six months in the office of the Huber Threshing Machine Company of Minneapolis. In 1906 he took a position in the First State Bank at Perley, and in 1912 was appointed cashier of that popular and well-managed institution, and has continued to discharge the duties of this responsible position in an able and satisfactory manner to the present time. Mr. Gaare is also president of the Perley Trading Company and is secretary of the Perley Live Stock Shipping Association. He served five years as recorder of the village of Perley.

In 1911 Joseph Gaare was married to Anna Matilda Lee, a daughter of Jens O. Lee, which union has been without issue. Politically, Mr. Gaare is a Republican. He is a member of the Masonic order and of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen, being clerk of the latter lodge at Perley. He and his wife belong to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

HENRY MARSDEN.

Henry Marsden, a prominent hardware merchant at Hendrum, is a native of the Emerald Isle, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Norman county for nearly a quarter of a century. He was born at Cootehill, County Cavan, in the north of Ireland, October 21, 1871, a son of John and Catherine (Banner) Marsden, both of whom were born in Manchester, England, and the former of whom was a stock breeder and miller at Cootehill. John Marsden and his wife were parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last born, the others being Fred, Arthur, George, Annie and Charles.

Upon completing his schooling Henry Marsden became interested in the work of his father's stock farm and remained at home until he was twenty-two years of age, when, in 1893, he came to the United States, following his elder brother, Arthur Marsden, who had come to this country some years before, and joined the latter up here in the Red River valley, locating in Hendrum township, Norman county, where for the next few years he was engaged on a farm. In the spring of 1898 he formed a partnership with

James Materson in the hardware business at Hendrum, a partnership which continued until the spring of 1906, when Mr. Marsden bought his partner's interest in the business and has since been conducting the same alone, one of the leading merchants in the village. In addition to his general hardware business, Mr. Marsden carries a full line of agricultural implements and farm machinery and has done very well in his mercantile operations. Ever since locating at Hendrum Mr. Marsden has taken a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs and served for one year as recorder of the village and for three years as president of the village, giving to his official duties his most intelligent attention. In December, 1914, his wife, Mrs. Edith A. Marsden, who had been assistant principal of the Hendrum public schools, was commissioned postmistress of Hendrum, and the postoffice is now conducted in Mr. Marsden's store, a central point for the people of the village and surrounding country.

It was on June 20, 1912, that Henry Marsden was united in marriage to Edith A. McNee, of Spring Valley, Minnesota, and to this union two children have been born, Frederick John and Winston Craig. Mr. and Mrs. Marsden are members of the Presbyterian church and take a warm interest in church work, Mr. Marsden having served as a member of the board of trustees of the local congregation. They have a pleasant home at Hendrum and are helpful in promoting all movements designed to advance the common welfare of the community in which they live.

OTTO AUGUSTUS CHRISTIANSON

One of the well-known farmers of Oakport township, Clay county, who is deserving of the success he has achieved is Otto Augustus Christianson. He was born in Clinton county, Iowa, on the site of the present city of Clinton, July 29, 1851, a son of Abraham and Catherine (Anderson) Christianson, both natives of Norway. In 1840 the mother went to France as a nurse, later returning to Norway, but in a short time started to America, single. On the same ship was Abraham Christianson. They made the long voyage to New Orleans, then up the Mississippi river to St. Louis, Missouri, where they were married by a German Lutheran minister, through an interpreter; and then came on north to Clinton, Iowa, having made the entire trip from Norway by water. This was in the year 1844. They took up a homestead of eighty acres in Iowa, which farm is now the site of the Sunny-

side Nurseries at Lyons, a suburb of Clinton. The place was cleared and improved by the father of the subject of this sketch and there he carried on farming until about 1855, when he removed to Houston county, Minnesota, where he pre-empted a large farm, on which he spent the rest of his life. The place is now known as the Bjornstad farm. After his death his widow remarried and located at Fulton, Illinois, across the Mississippi river from Clinton, Iowa, and there her death occurred. The father of the subject of this sketch was twice married before his marriage to Catherine Anderson. By his first marriage a daughter, Anna, was born. The following children were by his second marriage: Caroline, Katherine, Charles, who was a miner in Colorado and who served in the Civil War in a regiment from that state, and Matilda. By his third marriage two children were born, namely: Amy Josephine, who died in infancy, and Otto A., the subject of this sketch.

Otto A. Christianson grew up on the farm and received his early education in the early-day schools of Houston county, studying for a time in the Houston high school, and later was a student in the Caledonia Academy. As a boy and young man he worked out as a farm hand, also on steamboats on the Mississippi river and on railroads. In 1874 he came to Moorhead and presently took a position in a warehouse of the firm of Barnes & Tenny at Glyndon, and later worked in the store operated by this firm, remaining with the firm about nine months. During the following winter Mr. Christianson taught school in Moland township; in fact, taught two schools, alternately, at the same time. He then followed various occupations until the next winter, when he again taught school. He had clerked for a short time in the store of James Sharpe, who was one of the first merchants in Moorhead. In the spring of 1876 Mr. Christianson took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Oakport township and there he has since made his home, developing a fine farm from the wild prairie, being one of the early pioneers of that locality. Mr. Christianson has added to his original farm until he now has a farm of five hundred and forty acres, all well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He has erected a splendid group of buildings on his land and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Moorhead, which he helped organize.

In 1878 Otto A. Christianson was married to Mina K. Juve, a daughter of Ole Juve, a pioneer settler of Kragnes township, Clay county, who located there about 1877. To that union three children were born, Anna Josephine (deceased), Oscar A. and Milton (deceased). Mr. Christianson married for his second wife Andria Nelson, who was born in Denmark, a

daughter of Ebbe Nelson, who lived and died in Denmark. To this second union eight children were born, all living at this writing, and named as follows: Ruth, Mina, Daniel, who is a soldier in the Eighteenth Infantry, regular army of the United States, and at this writing (1917) is with the Pershing expeditionary force in France; Lillian, John, who is at this writing a member of the Third Regiment, Minnesota National Guard, and is stationed at Ft. Adams; Clara, Milton and Catherine.

Mr. Christianson has always been active in the affairs of Oakport township. He helped organize the township and was a member of the first township board; in fact, has been a member of the board most of the time since the township was first organized, being still on the same. He was formerly township assessor. He helped organize the first Sunday school, also the first church in his community, known as the Concordia Lutheran church, and later helped build the present edifice for this congregation.

GUSTAV O. LEE.

Gustav O. Lee, a well-known, prosperous and progressive farmer and stockman, owner of a fine farm in Moland township, Clay county, was born in Houston county, this state, on December 2, 1864, but has been a resident of this county since 1871. He is the son of Ole and Asger Lee, both natives of the kingdom of Norway.

Ole Lee was a farmer in Norway, where he was born in 1835. In 1854 he immigrated to the United States and on arriving in this country came on out to the state of Minnesota and settled in Houston county, where he engaged in the life of a farmer for some years. In 1871 he and his family moved into Clay county and homesteaded a tract of land. He immediately proceeded to put the land into a state fit for cultivation, and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1873, two years after he had taken possession of the farm. His wife, Asger Lee, also was born in Norway, in 1841; came to America in 1853 and was married in 1863 in Houston county, this state. She is now living with her son, Gustav O., on his farm in Moland township. Ole Lee and wife were the parents of the following children: Gustav O., the first born, and Julia, Olaus and Andrew, who are deceased.

Gustav O. Lee was but a boy of nine years of age when his father died and as he was the eldest child of the family he had to commence early to assist his mother in the work of caring for and supporting the family.



GUSTAV O. LEE AND FAMILY.

and in consequence his opportunity for an extended education was limited. He was married on July 17, 1892, to Vila Swenkeson, who was born in 1875 in Clay county, and who died, after a few years of married life, in 1895. There were no children to the marriage.

Mr. Lee is the owner of one hundred and ninety acres of the choicest quality of land, has between twenty and forty acres each year planted to potatoes, and in his farming operations is doing splendidly. He carries on his farming according to modern methods of agriculture and is accounted one of the substantial farmers of this section of the county. Mr. Lee has effected many valuable improvements on his holding and has remodeled and overhauled the old homestead house, which is still in use. He raises a nice herd of Shorthorn cattle and his stock in this strain finds a ready market, at good prices.

JOHN T. REDLAND.

John T. Redland, one of the real pioneers of Norman county, who was largely instrumental in the organization of the first school in Shelly township, where he now lives the life of a farmer, who was one of the original organizers of Shelly township and one of its earliest officers, and who was one of the first men in this community to materially aid the establishment of a place of worship for the people of the neighborhood, was born in the amt of Stavanger, Norway, on November 28, 1844. He is a son of Thorston and Martha (Iverson) Johnson, who were both born on the Redland farm in the amt of Stavanger, in Norway. In 1854 the father and mother decided to bring their family to America, but that was no easy task in those days before the day of the steamship in its perfected state. For two long months they were at the mercy of the Atlantic in a small sail boat, but finally they landed at Quebec and from there proceeded on up the St. Lawrence by steamboat to Montreal. They then followed the different windings of the Great Lakes by diverse means of transportation until they arrived at Chicago. The family remained in that city for only one month, owing to an outbreak of cholera there, and then they started for La Crosse, Wisconsin, by rail, horses and river boat, for at that time the railroad extended only ten miles west of Chicago. After a short stay in La Crosse, the family went to Coon Prairie, Wisconsin, where the father died and where the family remained until 1871. There were nine children born to Thorston

and Martha Johnson, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Ann Catherine (deceased), Annie (deceased), Martha (deceased), Toletta (deceased), Carrie (deceased) and Iver (deceased). Two died in Vernon county, Wisconsin, in the days of the early settlement of that county, when there was no cemetery, and it was necessary to cut the coffin with a broadax.

In 1871 John T. Redland and his mother started Westward in a covered wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, driving their cattle before them, crossed the Father of Waters by ferry at La Crosse and drove on northwestward through Minnesota, carefully scrutinizing the land as they passed over it. Finally, their wanderings had led them so far as what is now Norman county and there they settled in Shelly township, where Mr. Redland has since lived. One could not recognize in this populous and well-developed section the Norman county of fifty years ago, for at that time Moorhead, in Clay county, boasted of only one house. No bridges spanned the streams swollen by the spring thaws, for each spring Mr. Redland, with the other settlers of the neighborhood, found it necessary to build a contrivance across the Wild Rice river by which they could cross, and this bit of pioneer civil engineering had to be repeated each spring, for when the river would start in upon one of its spring rampages, it would crumble the puny bridge like matchwood. Alexandria, which was one hundred and sixty miles away, was the nearest point where the settlers could get provisions, but it was not reached by railroad, for Mr. Redland made the round trip twice with a team of oxen, the trip requiring two weeks.

When Mr. Redland entered this section, it was a vast expanse of unbroken and unsurveyed prairie land, hence he took a "squatter's" claim, where he now lives. Later, he pre-empted some land and purchased more from the railroad. He made several trips to St. Paul to buy railroad land for his neighbors, as their representative, thus exemplifying the spirit of brotherhood which flourished on the American frontier. After he had put in his first crop, Mr. Redland was happy in the anticipation of a bountiful harvest, but the grasshoppers had other designs and absolutely stripped his fields of vegetation. Ere the next year, the railroad, which had been creeping along so slowly, finally reached Breckinridge, and after that the pioneers did not find it necessary to make such long trips to their market. During his then short residence in the county, Mr. Redland had built his house, which undoubtedly was a settler's cabin, as the main tool he had at his disposal was a broadax. With the same clumsy tools he performed the

sorrowful task of making a coffin for his brother, Iver, who died soon after the family had reached their new home in the great Northwest.

Soon other settlers came in and the population of what is now Norman county became sufficient to warrant its civil organization. Anthony Scheie was the first assessor in this part of the county and Mr. Redland was the second. At that time the assessor assessed a wide scope of territory in the northwest part of Norman county, for the present townships were not then organized. In this capacity, Mr. Redland served for eight years until he became assessor of the present township of Shelly, which he helped to organize.

Mr. Redland's education, which was limited, was received in Wisconsin. Even though the schools of those days were rude as compared with the splendid system now extant in Norman county, he readily saw the necessity of giving the children of his neighborhood such educational advantages as the community could afford. Thus it is that the credit for the organization of the first school in Shelly township is due to Mr. Redland. In those days the law prescribed that a community must provide for a school house and conduct a three-months term at its own expense before it could receive public or state aid. Since Mr. Redland was very anxious to bring this about, he hired a teacher at sixteen dollars a month and board and had the school conducted in his own home. He, himself, at times boarded the teacher and personally paid six dollars a month of the salary. In addition to this, he made trips to Crookston on skis in the bitter cold on school business. All of this was done by Mr. Redland that the education of the children of the community might not be neglected. For many years he served on the school board, but after the educational progress of the community seemed safely launched, he resigned. Not only did the school interests of the community demand Mr. Redland's time and resources, but he was also deeply interested in the establishment of a religious society. He helped to organize the first church in the community, the Marsh River Lutheran church, on August 2, 1872, at the house of Engel Lovesness. The society is still extant, but Mr. Redland has changed his membership to a church nearer his home.

There are few pioneer settlements which have not had an Indian scare, and the one of which Mr. Redland was a member was no exception. It was in 1883 that the Indians seemed to be restless and the settlers were all on the *qui vive*, for they organized a local company for their own defense. Happily this organization was never called into active service. Many Indians camped on the river near Mr. Redland's home to fish, but he always treated them kindly and did not incur their enmity. On this

occasion, in 1883, he did not feel so sure of his safety. As he was on his way to board a train near Ada, in order to go to Crookston on business, he met thirty Indians. As they kept to their course and as Mr. Redland had no hostile intentions, no breach of the peace was effected.

On June 29, 1881, John T. Redland was united in marriage to Carrie Sophia Morrison, who also was a native of Norway, born, March 18, 1862, a daughter of Mauritz and Sarah (Sorenson) Larson, natives of Norway, who lived and died there. To this union six children have been born, namely: Mila Sophia (deceased), William Tenny, Stella, Ruben, Ida and Milton (deceased). Mr. Redland has always lived on the same farm since he came to Norman county; however, he lived on different parts of the farm until he had proved up on that which he had pre-empted. After he had done this, he came to the tract which he had purchased from the railroad. In all, he is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of well-improved and valuable land, having built the valuable and substantial buildings incident to the plant of a successful farmer. In addition to his many activities in behalf of the progress of this section, Mr. Redland has also been interested in making available better facilities in the community for the marketing of the farmers' grain. In doing this, he helped to organize the farmers elevator at Shelly. His son Ruben is interested in the creamery at Shelly and rents the home place.

ANDREW T. AABYE.

The late Andrew T. Aabye, who was a well-to-do landowner in Lee township, Norman county, and for years engaged in the mercantile business at Perley, in which place he also had banking and other interests, had the distinction of having been the first white child born in Goodhue county, this state. He was born on a pioneer farm in that county on October 24, 1854, and died at his home in Norman county in 1911. His widow, who is now living on the fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres in section 29 of Lee township, has done much in the way of improvement on that place since her husband's death, having erected a new set of substantial, modern buildings, and is very comfortably situated there.

Andrew T. Aabye's father and mother were of Norwegian birth but were married in this country, where they spent their last days, prominent pioneers of Goodhue county, this state. They came to this country on the

same ship. The vessel was destroyed by fire as it was approaching land and although all hands were saved, the passengers were compelled to take to the boats without their belongings and thus the elder Aabye and the girl who shortly afterward became his bride landed in this country practically penniless. They were enabled, however, to make their way out into the Northwest and settled on a farm in Goodhue county, this state, among the very first settlers of that county, their eldest child, the subject of this memorial sketch, having been, as noted above, the first white person born in that county. Despite the fact that he landed in this country destitute of world's goods, the elder Aabye became a successful farmer, the owner of two hundred acres of fine land in Goodhue county, and was worth thousands at the time of his death in that county about 1901. He was four years older than his wife, who survived him about ten years, she being eighty-six years of age at the time of her death. Of the children born to this pioneer pair, three are still living, Mrs. Ole Finney, of Georgetown township, Clay county; another daughter in Goodhue county, and another daughter in Olmsted county.

Reared on the home farm in Goodhue county, Andrew T. Aabye grew up there familiar with pioneer conditions in Minnesota and remained there until 1882, three or four years after his marriage, when he came up into the Red River valley and bought a quarter of a section of land in section 29 of Lee township, Norman county, and there established his home, the place on which his widow is still making her home. He later bought two adjoining quarter sections and his widow is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of fine land, well improved and profitably cultivated. In addition to his extensive land interests, Mr. Aabye was one of the most influential factors in the development of the village of Perley. He opened a store at that place shortly after the establishment of the townsite and was engaged in mercantile business there practically all the time of his residence in Norman county. For ten years he was postmaster at Perley and in many ways helped to bring about substantial conditions there, one of the organizers of the First National bank and also active in promoting other local enterprises. His widow now owns the brick store building which she built on the same site on which he carried on business and is continuing to operate the store, which is now managed by Mr. Erickson; and the bank shares are now owned by his son, Carl Aabye, who is also managing the home farm.

It was on May 28, 1878, in Goodhue county, this state, that Andrew T. Aabye was united in marriage to Inger H. Vuxland, who was born in Wisconsin on December 13, 1859. Her parents were both natives of the kingdom of Norway, but were married in Wisconsin, where they lived

until moving to Goodhue county, this state, where the mother is still living, being now past eighty-two years of age. The father bought a small farm upon locating in Goodhue county and added to the same until he became the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres, which is still in the possession of the family. He died at the age of sixty-four. Mrs. Aabye has six brothers and one sister, the latter of whom, Mrs. Judge Andrew Hanson, lives in this part of the country, a resident of Fargo, North Dakota. Mrs. Aabye has three children, Olena, who married Gust Erickson, of Perley, and has two children, Arthur and Mildred; Clara, who married Justus Berg, of Hendrum, and has one child, John Vincent, and Carl, managing the home farm, who married Stella Ness, and has one child, Susan Katrina. The Aabys have ever taken an interested part in the general good works and social activities of their home community and have done much to help promote the substantial upbuilding of that part of the county.

EDWARD T. STENNES.

Edward T. Stennes, the proprietor of three hundred and thirty acres of fine farming land in Halstad township, Norman county, where he carries on general farming, was born on November 7, 1876, on the old home place where he still lives, the son of Theodore and Annie (Serum) Stennes, both of whom were natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota and were married in Norman county in the fall of 1873. The mother was the daughter of Ole and Annie J. (Norby) Serum, both natives of Norway, the latter of whom spent her last days in Minnesota, one of the pioneers of Norman county. Ole Serum was a farmer in his native country, and there he married Annie J. Norby, to which union seven children were born, namely: A. O., one of the real pioneers of Norman county and a well-known resident of Halstad township; Ingeborg, Maret, Karen, Mollie, Annie, the wife of Theodore Stennes and the mother of the subject of this review; and Ole. In 1862 the father, Ole Serum, was drowned while taking part in a log drive on the river not far from his home, and five years later his widow with four of her children, including Annie, came to the United States and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota. There she remained until 1872, when she, accompanied by her son, A. O. Serum, and her daughter, Annie, came up into this part of the state and settled in Halstad township, Norman county.

Theodore O. Stennes left his native land, Norway, and came to America in 1868, locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. When the party, which included Annie Serum and her mother and brother, moved toward Norman county, Theodore Stennes, feeling that greater opportunities awaited him in this then new country, joined them. As soon as he arrived in Norman county he located on a quarter section in Halstad township. Three years later, he let his brother Hans have seventy acres of the first tract and they both proved up their holdings as homesteads. Theodore Stennes, being of the stuff of which real pioneers are made, immediately set to work to improve his holding, which was of bare prairie, by setting out groves and raising the necessary buildings. Soon his industry was rewarded and he was enabled to add another quarter section across the road from his first tract and later a tract of timber land. Theodore O. and Annie Stennes were the parents of four children, of whom Edward T. is the second in order of birth, the others being a daughter, who died in infancy; Clara, who owns a millinery store in Halstad, and Olin, who has a hardware business at Wolf Point, Montana, and who married Alice Berger. Sometime after the death of his first wife, Theodore Stennes married Elizabeth Flogstad, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Ole and Gura Flogstad, and to this union one child has been born, Theodore, who works for his brother, Odin. Theodore O. Stennes and family were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, to which denomination they always consistently and conscientiously adhered, the father having helped to organize the Augustana Lutheran church, of which he was an officer during the greater part of his residence in Norman county.

Edward T. Stennes, who has always lived on the old home place in Halstad township, received his common-school education in the district schools of his home township. Later, he decided to supplement his early training by attending Concordia College, at Moorhead, where he had one term. Much of his vocational training, however, has been derived from the school of experience here on his father's farm; that this has borne fruit is evidenced by the splendid crops which Mr. Stennes reaps from his well-improved farm of three hundred and thirty acres.

On February 4, 1915, Theodore Stennes, Jr., married Lillie Peterson, who was born in Halstad, Minnesota, January 21, 1895, the daughter of Sam and Christinia (Liaunet) Peterson. Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Stennes are the parents of two children, Lloyd and Philip. Edward T. Stennes is an adherent of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, being a member of the Augustana Lutheran church of which his father was such an active member.

Politically, Mr. Stennes is a staunch advocate of independent principles. He has never been a seeker after office. Of all movements in the community which are initiated for its moral and material betterment, Mr. Stennes is a hearty exponent and loyal supporter.

WILHELM NICKEL.

Wilhelm Nickel, deceased, formerly a well-known farmer of Hagen township, Clay county, where he lived for several years, was a native of Russia, but had been a resident of this country since 1878, first settling in Cottonwood county, this state, and later becoming a prominent and influential citizen of Clay county, where he spent the remainder of his life since coming here in 1898, his death, which was generally regretted, occurring in 1901. He was born in Russia on July 29, 1843, a son of Henry and Katherine (Martins) Nickel, who were farmers in that country.

Henry and Katherine Nickel were natives of Prussia and when children, went with their respective parents to Russia, settling in the southern part of that country, where they spent the remainder of their lives, respected citizens of their home community. They were the parents of eight children, Henry, Katherine, Jacob, Maria, John, Elizabeth, Wilhelm and Helena, all of whom are deceased with the exception of Helena, who is living in Russia. Wilhelm was the only one of the family to come to this country.

Wilhelm Nickel was married on January 14, 1875, to Maria Neufeld, also a native of Russia, in which country the marriage took place. In 1878 they came to this country and located near Mountain Lake, Cottonwood county, this state, coming to that part of Minnesota with the second Russian settlement. Wilhelm Nickel bought a tract of land in that place and continued to farm the same until 1898, in which year he moved to Hagen township, Clay county, where he operated three hundred and twenty acres of prime land up to the time of his death in 1901, the same being now in the possession of his widow. He carried out some substantial improvements, including a fine barn, the other buildings now on the place being erected by his family. Wilhelm and Maria (Neufeld) Nickel were the parents of the following children: Gerhart, who was born in Russia and who died in that country at the age of two years; Maria, born in Russia, who died in Cottonwood county, this state; Wilhelm, born in Cottonwood county, who died in Clay county; Gerhart, born in Cottonwood county, who



MR. AND MRS. WILHELM NICKEL.

died in Clay county; Mrs. A. F. Toävs, living at Wolf Point, Montana, and Henry W., born September 7, 1886, in Cottonwood county, who came with his parents to Clay county. He has always lived on the home place and operates three hundred and twenty acres of land, one hundred and sixty of which he owns, and on which he carries on general farming, being regarded as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Hagen township.

On January 1, 1912, Henry W. Nickel was united in marriage to Susie Evert, who was born in Cottonwood county, a daughter of Jacob Evert and wife, natives of Russia. To Mr. and Mrs. Nickel three children have been born, Wilhelm, Orlando and Ruth. The Nickel family, both sides, are members of the Mennonite church. Mr. Nickel formerly was a member of the school board and he and his wife take a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they reside, factors for good in all that appertains to the welfare of the township.

Mrs. Maria (Neufeld) Nickel was the daughter of Rev. Gerhard Neufeld and wife, natives of Russia. The former was born in that country in 1827. In 1878 he came to Cottonwood county with the Russian settlement and there died on December 15, 1916. He served as pastor for thirty-eight years at Mountain Lake. His wife, Anna Tiecroew, who also was born in Russia, died in that country. They were the parents of the following children: Katherina, Anna, living in North Dakota; Maria, who became the wife of Wilhelm Nickel; Gerhart, Peter and Henry. All the foregoing children, with the exception of Anna and Maria, are living in Cottonwood county. Three other children, Susie, Henry and John, died young.

HARRY RICHARDS.

Harry Richards, one of the most extensive landowners and progressive farmers of Norman county and chairman of the board of directors of the First State Bank of Perley, is a native of the old Keystone state, but has been a resident of this section of the Red River valley since 1879 and is, therefore, very properly regarded as one of the real old settlers of this region. He was born at Erie, Pennsylvania, in August, 1858, son of John S. and Adelaide P. (McAllister) Richards, the former of whom also was born at Erie and the latter, near Watertown, New York.

John S. Richards, who died in 1898, at the age of seventy-four years, was a successful coal operator at Erie, engaged both in mining and jobbing, was a member of the board of directors of the Second National Bank of Erie and was for some years holder of the controlling interest in the Northwestern Fuel Company, of St. Paul, having bought James J. Hill's interest in that concern. His widow died in 1912, she then being seventy-four years of age. They were the parents of three children, the subject of this sketch having two sisters, Mrs. Mary Metcalf, of Erie, Pennsylvania, and Mrs. Adelaide Michener, a widow.

Reared at Erie, Pennsylvania, Harry Richards completed his schooling in the Erie Academy and when twenty-one years of age, in 1879, came up into the Northwest country and located at Fargo, where he became engaged in the coal business, details of which he had learned under the careful direction of his father, at that time one of the leading coal men in the country. For about five years he continued in that business at Fargo and then, in 1884, he bought a tract of something more than a section of land in sections 18 and 19 of Lee township, Clay county, and proceeded to improve and develop the same. When Mr. Richards took possession of that six-hundred-and-fifty-acre tract it was wholly unimproved, but it was not long before he had it under cultivation and had there erected a farm plant that was widely regarded as one of the best in the Northwest. He has continued adding both to his land holdings and to the improvements on the place until now he is the owner of a great farm of thirteen hundred and five acres and a farm plant that is a model of modern convenience and effectiveness, the buildings on the place carrying insurance to the amount of twenty thousand dollars. In addition to his general farming Mr. Richards has long given close attention to the raising of live stock and in the summer of 1917 had eleven thousand dollars worth of stock on the place. The farm house, the center of this admirable farm plant, is a large, modern house, equipped throughout in strictly up-to-date fashion, and Mr. Richards and his family are very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. Not only has Mr. Richards been successful in his farming operations, but he has given close attention to the general business activities of the community, helpful in many ways in promoting the various enterprises that have added so much to the development of this region. He was the organizer of the First State Bank of Perley and is chairman of the board of directors of the same.

In 1880, the year following his location at Fargo, Mr. Richards was united in marriage, at Erie, Pennsylvania, to Sarah M. Eliot, who was born

at that place in 1859, and to this union two children have been born, a son, John Eliot Richards, and a daughter, Ruth Eliot Richards, the latter of whom was graduated from a New Jersey college in the spring of 1917, and the former, of Dartmouth College. John E. Richards remains on the home place, aiding in the general management of the same. Harry Richards is a Mason of high degree, having attained the Scottish Rite (thirty-second degree) in that order, a charter member of the consistory of North Dakota and is a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, affiliated with El Zagal Temple at Fargo. He also is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and in the affairs of that order likewise takes a warm interest.

SAMSON N. PETERSON.

Samson N. Peterson, an enterprising merchant at Perley, Norman county, was born at Calamus, Iowa, January 21, 1864. He is a son of Nils and Kari (Hanson) Peterson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity and attended school, and they were married in their native land in 1855. They came to America on their honeymoon and located on a farm near Calamus, Iowa, buying raw land, which they improved by hard work and perseverance, enduring the usual hardships and privations of pioneer life. The father still lives on the home place there, which he has now occupied for a period of sixty-two years, a record that few men in his state can equal. He owns one hundred and eighty acres. His wife died on December 21, 1891. She was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, to which Nils Peterson also belongs. To these parents three children were born, Hans, Samson N. and Cornelius.

Samson N. Peterson grew to manhood on the home farm at Calamus, Iowa, working hard during the crop seasons, and in the winter attended the district schools, later attending the high school at Dewitt, that state, and was graduated therefrom. He began life for himself as a teacher, in the fall of 1881, and continued teaching for eight years with success, giving satisfaction both to pupils and patrons, and his services were in demand. During this period he taught four years in Norman county, Minnesota, having come here in 1886. In the fall of 1890 he began clerking in a store at Ada, and the following year took a position as clerk in the store of A. J. Kroshus at Perley, which position he held two years, then clerked two years

in the Aabye store there. He then went to Fargo, North Dakota, and clerked one year; then had charge of a store at Horace, that state, seven years. In all these positions he gave his employers most satisfactory service, being faithful, alert and courteous to customers. During his period of clerking Mr. Peterson was a close observer and mastered the various ins and outs of the mercantile business, at the same time saving his earnings. Upon leaving Horace in 1904 he located in Perley, Minnesota, and bought out a general merchandise business, which he has since conducted with very gratifying results, carrying an extensive stock of well-selected goods and enjoying a large and growing trade with the town and surrounding country. He has also been interested in the Lee Elevator Company there and has discharged the duties of secretary of the company during the past nine years.

On March 21, 1888, Mr. Peterson was married to Bertha Margaret Johnson, who was born at Calamus, Iowa, and who received a good education in the public schools of Dewitt, Iowa. She is a daughter of George and Bertha (Christianson) Johnson, natives of Norway, who were farming people of Clinton county, Iowa. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Peterson, namely: Nils, Beatrice and Laura. Mr. Peterson is a Republican and is a member of the village council of Perley and also clerk of the local school board. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church in which he is a deacon, having held this office for many years, and is active in church work.

ANDREW J. HAGEN.

Albert J. Hagen, the well-known owner of one hundred and eighty acres of Hendrum township land, and director in the Farmers State Bank of the village of Hendrum, was born in Norway, September 21, 1859, the son of Johanas O. and Olava Andreasdatter (Hagen) Hagen, both born in Norway, where they were reared and were married, coming to America in 1867. For the first ten years after the family came to America, they lived in Houston county, Minnesota, and Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the father worked as a farm hand, a carpenter and a tinner. In 1877 Johanas Hagen, following the example of many of his countrymen who had emigrated from the land of their nativity to this country, decided to push northward into Minnesota, where he could become the owner of some

of the excellent land which was at that time being opened to settlement. In the year mentioned above, he started to Norman county by train, and his family, with the household goods and a few farming implements, and two teams, one of oxen and the other of horses, followed overland with a party of settlers made up of three families, one of which was that of Ole N. Tommerdahl. In 1878 or 1879 the family homesteaded a quarter section of land in Hendrum township where Albert J. Hagen now lives, and there the father and mother lived until their deaths.

The elder Hagen became a prominent pioneer in the township, for he was ever in the forefront during his residence there in the opening of the country to settlement. He helped to organize the township and the first church in the community, called the St. Paul Lutheran church; the first postoffice of Hendrum was established in the house on his homestead, two miles north of Hendrum village, and he was the first postmaster. To Johanas Hagen and wife were born eleven children, all of whom died young except the following six: Greta (deceased), Ole, Nickoli A. (deceased), Albert J., the subject of this review; John, who is living in Hendrum, and Martin, who died at the age of thirteen years.

Albert J. Hagen received a very limited education in the common schools of Houston county before he came here with his parents in 1877, and has always lived in Hendrum township since he has resided in Norman county. After remaining several years on the home place, where he industriously applied himself to bringing the family's holding under cultivation, he started out on his own account, buying eighty acres of railroad land in Hendrum township, and later he bought a pre-emption right to eighty more acres and lived on the same for two and one-half years, proving it up. After that he returned to the eighty-acre tract of railroad land and remained there eleven years, from 1885 to 1896. He then took up his residence on his father's homestead, which he has improved by erecting excellent farm buildings and has since made that his home. He now is the owner of one hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land on which he carries on general farming.

On July 11, 1889, Mr. Hagen married Sophia Christianson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Johan and Nikoline Christianson, who never came to America. To this union have been born the following children, all of whom are living: Olga, Julia, Matilda, Alfred, Christian, Clara, Stella, Hilda and Margaret. The Hagen family are all members of the Lutheran denomination, in the affairs of which church they take a deep and serious interest. Mr. Hagen is "independent" in his political views

and takes a good citizen's interest in the welfare of his community, having served the township as township clerk and as a member of the township board for several years. Being a progressive citizen of his community, Mr. Hagen has ever been interested in bettering the business agencies of his neighborhood and helped to organize the farmers elevator, the creamery and the Farmers State Bank, all of Hendrum, and of the last enterprise named, he has been a director since its organization.

A. G. AANENSON

A. G. Aanenson, manager and treasurer of the Farmers' Elevator Company at Shelly, former member of the council of that village and one of the best-known grain men in Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since shortly after reaching his majority. He was born on July 26, 1865, a son of Aanen and Johanna C. (Aslaksen) Gunderson, also natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native country and who were the parents of five sons, those besides the subject of this sketch being Anton, Ole, John and Andrew S. Aanodt.

Reared on the home farm, A. G. Aanenson received his schooling in the schools of his native land and remained there until after he was of age, when, in July, 1887, he came to the United States and located at Hillsboro, North Dakota, in the vicinity of which place he worked on a farm until the fall of that year, when he came over the line into Minnesota and for about two years thereafter was engaged in work on farms in the vicinity of Halstad. Mr. Aanenson then entered Hope Academy at Moorhead and was attending school there when Concordia College was established in that city. He entered Concordia and after a comprehensive course there began teaching school in Norman county and was thus engaged for two or three years, at the end of which time he began farming in Halstad township. Two years later he left the farm and moved into the village of Shelly, where he ever since has made his home. It was in 1897 that Mr. Aanenson located at Shelly and until he became connected with the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company he was engaged as a clerk in various stores in that village. Some years after the organization of the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator Company he was installed as treasurer of the same and two years later was made manager of the company, as well as treasurer, and has since continued

to serve in that responsible dual capacity, rendering an excellent service in behalf of the farmers of that neighborhood. Mr. Aanenson also has given thoughtful attention to local civic affairs, has rendered service as a member of the village council and for the past fifteen years has been a member of the local school board, performing a valuable service in behalf of the schools of Shelly, which have been raised to a high grade of excellence.

On November 3, 1894, A. G. Aanenson was united in marriage to Martha Marie Olson, daughter of Knute Olson, and to this union seven children have been born, Arthur Bennett, Cora Olene, Hannah Christine, Alma Charlotte, Alvin Morris, Bernice Jeroma and Ardell Arnot, all of whom are living. The Aanensons have a very pleasant home at Shelly and take an interested part in the village's general social activities. Mr. and Mrs. Aanenson are members of the Lutheran church, in the various beneficences of which they ever have taken an active interest, and Mr. Aanenson is a member of the board of trustees of the local congregation. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local society of the Sons of Norway and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

OLAF SOLWOLD.

Olaf Solwold, a substantial and progressive farmer of Keene township, Clay county, owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land and raiser of a good grade of live stock, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years old, coming here in 1880. He was born in 1862, a son of Peter and Anna Solwold, natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1880, accompanied by their son, the subject of this sketch. Peter Solwold is now living in Keene township at the advanced age of three score and ten. His wife, Anna Solwold, died in 1906. They were the parents of the following children. Andrea (deceased), Carrie, Olaf, Harold (deceased in Norway), Annie, Harry and Enger.

Olaf Solwold was educated in the schools of his native Norway and at the age of eighteen years, in 1880, immigrated with his parents to this country and on arriving in Minnesota located on the homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, Keene township, the latter being later sold. He was a valuable assistant to his father in the work of improving and developing the home place. He bought on his own account a homestead

tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14 and in course of time bought eighty acres in section 23. Mr. Solwold is now engaged in general farming and stock raising and is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of this part of the township. He raises oats and barley as well as other crops. He has carried out many substantial improvements on his holding and has made an addition to the dwelling house, and his agricultural operations are conducted according to modern farming methods.

Olaf Solwold was united in marriage to Anna Marie Olson, born in Norway in 1872, and who, at the age of eighteen, came to America in company with Olaf Solwold, who went back to Norway in the fall of 1889, returning in the spring with his bride-to-be. To this union the following children have been born: Peter, who is married and rents the Albertson place, in the south part of Keene township; Marion, who is married and lives in the state of Washington; Susie, who is visiting with Marion; Ida, who is married and lives on a farm east of Keene township; and Olaf, Bernard, Hannah, Laura, Agnes and Edna, living at home. Mr. Solwold is a member of the Synod church and is an earnest attendant on its services. He and his wife take a proper part in the general social and cultural affairs of the neighborhood in which they live, ever ready to assist in all worthy movements intended to promote the best interests of the community.

O. G. FARSDALE.

O. G. Farsdale, head of the Farsdale Land Agency at Glyndon, a substantial landowner and one of the best-known men in this section of the Red River valley, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country and of Minnesota since he was fourteen years of age. He was born at Faersdalen, two Norwegian miles from the village of Meraker, in the stift of Trondjhem, October 8, 1851, son of Guttorm Olsen and Ingeborg (Kirkeby) Farsdale, the former of whom also was born at Faersdalen and the latter at Meraker, who became pioneer residents of Minnesota and in this state spent their last days.

Guttorm Olson Farsdale was a road builder in his native land. In 1865 he crossed the Atlantic with his family, the voyage requiring seven weeks in the making, and landed at Quebec, from which port he came to this state and settled on a farm in Goodhue county, where he spent the rest of his life, one of the substantial and influential pioneers of that county.



MR. AND MRS. O. G. FAIRBANKS.



FAMILY OF O. G. FARSDALE.

His wife died in 1868, about three years after the arrival of the family in this country, and he afterward married Helena Olson, who is still living, now making her home in Spring Prairie township, Clay county. G. O. Farsdale died in 1872. By his first marriage he was the father of three children, those besides the subject of this sketch, the eldest, having been Mollie, who married N. E. Lundgren, and Ole, who died in Norway. To the second union one child was born, a son, Ole.

As noted above, O. G. Farsdale was but fourteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents in 1865. As a boy of ten he had been employed at herding cattle and had been thus engaged for three years before coming to America. He had not neglected his schooling, however, and after coming here pursued his studies in the schools of Goodhue county, taking advantage of the opportunity thus offered to perfect himself in the study of English, and for five winters was in attendance on the local schools, supplementing the same by attendance for one term at the Lutheran College at Decorah, Iowa. The death of his father in 1872, however, interrupted his college course and he returned home to look after the interests of the farm. He married in 1876 and for two years thereafter was engaged in the drug business at Cannon Falls. In 1877 he came up into the Red River valley and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 6 of Riverton township, Clay county, thus establishing himself as one of the pioneers of that section of the county. In the following spring he moved his family here and established his home on the homestead tract, which he proceeded to improve in substantial shape, erecting a good house and farm buildings to match, and there continued to make his home until 1909, in which year he retired from the farm and moved to the village of Glyndon, where he established the Farsdale Land Agency and where he since has continued to make his home, extensively engaged in the real-estate business. In addition to his real-estate and other interests, Mr. Farsdale is the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of excellent land in this state and is accounted one of the most substantial citizens of Clay county. It is probable that no man in the county has a wider or more accurate knowledge of real-estate values in and about Clay county than has Mr. Farsdale. Not only that, but he has a practical knowledge of the needs of the agriculturist, based upon his years of experience as a pioneer farmer, and he is thoroughly and accurately posted on soil conditions throughout this valley.

In 1882, when Riverton township came to be organized as a civic unit of Clay county, Mr. Farsdale was one of the leaders of that movement

and for more than twenty years thereafter served as clerk of that township. For about the same length of time he served as justice of the peace in and for that township and since his removal to Glyndon has served as assessor and as justice of the peace. In 1890 Mr. Farsdale helped to organize the Populist party in his home county and in 1892 was that party's nominee for the state Legislature. In 1902 he was the party's nominee for state senator. Of late years Mr. Farsdale has reserved to himself the right of independence in his political views and votes for the man rather than for the party, believing and maintaining that that way lies good citizenship, as well as the better conservation of the interests of all the people. In church and school affairs Mr. Farsdale has also given of his best and was one of the most active promoters of all good movements hereabout in pioneer days. He helped organize the Riverton church and the Spring Prairie church and for many years served as secretary of the former. He was also one of the incorporators of Concordia College at Moorhead and has ever taken an active interest in the affairs of that excellent and influential institution.

On February 10, 1876, in Goodhue county, O. G. Farsdale was united in marriage to Inglew Mattson, who was born on July 27, 1855, and who is still living, one of the best-known and most highly respected pioneer mothers of Clay county, her influence for good in the days of the creation of a proper social order hereabout having endeared her to a wide circle of acquaintances throughout the county. To that union eleven children have been born, namely: Gustav, who died at the age of seventeen years; Ida Matilda, who married Frank Johnson, of Duluth, this state, and has three children, Florence, Frances and Grace; Oscar P., living at Moorhead, who has been twice married, his first wife having been Ollie Ellingson and his second, Mrs. Mabel McAbee; Hannah B., who married Leslie Hennessy, of Glenwood, and had one child, now deceased; Helen L., who married Oscar Thompson, of Duluth, and has three children, Virginia, Carson and Byron; Anna Maria, wife of Rudolph Maus, of Glyndon; Alfred B., now living at Great Falls, Montana, who married Mabel Rudlang and has one child, a daughter, Eleanor; Inger Olivia, who married Elbert Rotto, also of Great Falls, and has one child, a son, Donald; Edwin H., who died at the age of one year and twelve days; Edwin Gustav, now a traveling salesman, and an infant daughter who died on July 21, 1898. The Farsdales are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in church work, as well as in other local good works and in the general social activities of the community of which they have been a part since pioneer days.

NELS T. ODEGAARD.

The late Nels T. Odegard, who for years was one of the best-known citizens of Norman county, a substantial landowner, farmer and bridge builder, who died at his home in Lee township in the summer of 1917, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of this state since 1872. He was born on August 4, 1849, and remained in his native land until 1872, in which year he came to Minnesota with G. I. Crosby and settled in Goodhue county, later coming up into the Red River country, where he spent the rest of his life. He was the second of the two sons born to his parents, Tora and Ranhild Odegard, both of whom spent all their lives in their native country and both of whom died during the eighties. The other son, Andrew, also is deceased.

In 1879, the year of his marriage, Nels Odegard bought the land on which his widow is now living, a quarter-section tract in section 23 of Lee township, and there established his home. He later bought an adjoining twenty-acre tract and also a tract of forty acres in Georgetown township, Clay county. By original vocation Mr. Odegard was a bridge-builder and upon coming up here did much work in that line, many of the bridges in this part of the state having been built under his skillful direction. Not only was he a good farmer, but he gave his attention to the general business affairs of the community, was one of the organizers of the local creamery company at Perley and a stockholder in the same, and was a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Perley, long being accounted one of the substantial residents of that section of the county. For some time he served the public as township trustee and in other ways did his part in public affairs, as well as in the general affairs of the community. Mr. Odegard died on July 4, 1917, and his passing was much lamented in the community of which he had been a part since pioneer days, for he had done well his part in all his relations with his fellow men.

It was on June 5, 1879, as noted above, that Nels Odegard was united in marriage, on the old Crosby place, to Anna Crosby, who was born in Norway on February 7, 1850, and who came to this state with her brother, G. I. Crosby, in 1872, her mother having died in Norway when she was three years of age. There were born seven children in the family of Nels Odegard, namely: Theodore, who is married and who is now living in North Dakota, where he is engaged in the buying of grain; Inga, wife of M. A. Larson, of Perley; Mary, who is home with her mother; Jens, who is now farming a three-hundred-acre farm belonging to his mother in the

neighborhood of Wahpton; and Nelius, John and Alma, at home. Mr. Odegard was an active member of the Lutheran church, as is his widow, and did much toward promoting the various beneficences of the same. He was long a member of the board of trustees of the local church, helped build the same and was a liberal contributor to the cause of church work. The family have a very pleasant home in Lee township and take an interested part in the general social activities and good works of the community.

S. S. DALEN.

S. S. Dalen, cashier of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank at Perley, and one of the leading business men of southwestern Norman county, was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, in 1863. He is a son of Syvert A. and Synva (Brekke) Dalen, both natives of Norway, where they spent their earlier years, immigrating to America about 1842 and settling in Goodhue county, Minnesota, among the pioneers. There they developed a good farm by hard work and perseverance and established a comfortable home, continuing to reside there until the spring of 1882, when they removed to the vicinity of Georgetown in Clay county, buying a farm of about one hundred and fifty acres along the Red river, and there they spent the rest of their lives. They were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church. Their family consisted of nine children, namely: Bretha, who married Ole Finley; Nels, Andrew, Louis, John, S. S., Anna, Gertie and Ole.

S. S. Dalen spent his boyhood in Goodhue county, where he helped with the work on the farm and attended the public schools, later attending Willmar College, at Willmar, Minnesota, where he took a business course in 1887. After leaving school he began life for himself as a merchant, handling a general line of goods at Georgetown. He enjoyed a good business with the people of that town and the surrounding country for many miles, and remained there until 1899, when he moved to Perley, where he has since resided. He became cashier of the Bank of Perley and there continued for seven years, at the end of which time he sold his interest in the bank and went to Moorhead and engaged in the clothing business there four years. He then went to the state of Washington and spent a year, then returned to Norman county and farmed in the vicinity of Perley for three years, during which time he was also interested in a store at Hendrum. In 1914 Mr. Dalen again turned his attention to the banking business, organizing the

Farmers and Merchants' Bank at Perley, of which he has since been cashier. The rapid growth of this popular and safe bank has been due very largely to his able management and conservative methods and his honesty, promptness and courtesy in dealing with his patrons. A general banking business is carried on and the bank has modern fixtures and equipment.

Mr. Dalen is also connected with the First State Bank of South Haven, Minnesota, and has an interest in a general store at Georgetown. He has been very successful in a business way, being a man of sound judgment and foresight, energetic and persevering. Politically, Mr. Dalen is a Republican and while living at Georgetown served as treasurer of Georgetown township for ten years. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, which he served as trustee for about twelve years; has always been a liberal supporter of the church and other worthy causes, and is active in church affairs.

In 1890 S. S. Dalen was married to Bertha Ohnstad, a native of Norway. She received a common school education. She is a daughter of Mons and Christine (Ohnstad) Ohnstad, natives of Norway. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dalen, namely: Clara, Sanford, who died when eight years of age, and Bernice.

NELS J. ENGER.

Nels J. Enger, a substantial farmer and well-known stock raiser of Halstad township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred acres of fine farming land, a present member of the Norman county board of county commissioners and a man who has been and is deeply interested in local business affairs, was born in Norway, August 16, 1859, a son of Jacob J. and Martha (Christopherson) Enger. The father and mother, who were both natives of Norway, decided in the early seventies that America offered them excellent opportunities to establish themselves comfortably, as had been the experience of many of their countrymen, and immigrated to this country in 1872. They settled first in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where there were several of their friends, and awaited the opening of some new territory northward where they could acquire a holding of the rich, new prairie soil. In 1878 the parents, with some of their children, joined a party of settlers who were driving through to what was later organized into Norman county. It was on May 9 of that year that the little band of pioneers struck out northward behind their horse teams, driving their cattle

before them and they arrived at their destination on June 9, their journey requiring a little more than a month. The elder Enger and wife were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this review was the youngest, the others being: Anna Elizabeth, who married and lived in Norway, rearing a family; a daughter, who died in infancy; Christ; Olaus J., now called Lewis J.; Martha, who is dead, and Ellen. Jacob and Martha Enger did not establish a home in Norman county, but lived among their children until their deaths.

Nels J. Enger received his early education in the schools of Norway and in Fillmore county, Minnesota. He was only seventeen years of age when he accompanied his parents northward into Norman county, but the buoyancy so characteristic of a youth of that age lent enthusiasm to his efforts to establish himself in that new land, and soon after he arrived in that territory, he plowed a furrow around the southwest quarter of section 10, in Halstad township and bought that tract when it was placed on the market as state land. Since this land was overgrown with small timber and underbrush, he had no little difficulty in clearing it and putting it into condition for growing crops, but his persistence triumphed in the end and where formerly was an expanse of wild land he has now a well-improved and carefully cultivated farm. On this, the home place, he has planted a fine grove and has raised adequate and substantial buildings. His industry has enabled him to add to his holdings and several years ago he bought the west half of the northwest quarter of section 15, in Halstad township. In addition to his general agricultural operations, he raises thoroughbred Aberdeen-Angus cattle.

On March 29, 1887, Nels J. Enger was united in marriage to Bertha Orvick, who was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, December 8, 1868, a daughter of Jacob and Bertha (Tollefson) Orvick. She came to Norman county with her parents in 1879, just one year after Mr. Enger came northward with his parents. To Mr. and Mrs. Enger twelve children have been born: Edwin M., Selma, Tenny, Nora, James, Ernest, Chester, Myrtle and Sella, all of whom are living at home, and Edwin, Selma and Bennie, deceased.

A very obvious thing about Mr. Enger's career thus far has been his marked activity in local civic and business affairs. He has served as township supervisor and as a member of the township school board most of the time. His work in these capacities has so commended him to his neighbors that he was elected a member of the county board of commissioners and is an incumbent of that office at the present time. He has also given

of his time to the business interests of the community, since he helped to organize the Halstad Farmers Lumber Company, the farmers elevator and the creamery at Halstad. In politics, Mr. Enger is a staunch adherent of the Republican party. He and his family are members of the Augustana Lutheran church and in the affairs of the same they take an active interest.

ELBERT A. MELDRUM.

Elbert D. Meldrum, one of Norman county's most extensive landowners and most successful stock raisers, the owner of a splendidly improved farm of more than thirteen hundred acres in Lee township and long accounted one of the most progressive agriculturists in this section of the Red River valley, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of this part of the country since the early eighties and is, therefore, very properly regarded as one of the real "old settlers" of this section. He was born in the city of Buffalo, New York, in 1859, a son of Robert O. and Julia Ettie (Brown) Meldrum, the latter of whom is still living at Buffalo, being now in the eighty-sixth year of her age. She was born at East Aurora, New York, of old Colonial stock, one of her ancestors having come over in the "Mayflower." Robert O. Meldrum was a native of Nova Scotia and came to the States with his parents in the days of his youth. He was one of the pioneer oil men in Pennsylvania and was quite successful in his operations, having investments both in that state and in New York, and was also interested in land in this part of the country, his total real-estate investments being very extensive. He died at his home in Buffalo in 1884, he then being seventy years of age. Robert O. Meldrum and wife were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this biographical sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Charles H., who is married and who now makes his home at Mt. Clemens, Michigan; Mrs. Ettie M. Kurtz, New York; Mattie E., wife of H. C. Prox, of Terre Haute, Indiana, and Robert O., Jr., who is married and continues to make his home in Buffalo.

Elbert D. Meldrum grew to manhood in Buffalo, receiving his schooling in the schools of that city, and early became engaged with his father in the oil business. About 1882 he became attracted to the possibilities of land investments up here in the Red River valley and with a view to developing property in this section located at Moorhead, where he acquired consid-

erable interests and at the same time bought land on which he is now living in Norman county. For several years after coming here he made his home in Moorhead, but shortly after his marriage, in 1885, established his home on his farm in Norman county and has since continued to reside there, having developed one of the finest bits of farming property in this section of the state. Mr. Meldrum is the owner of thirteen hundred and eighty-four acres of excellent land in sections 36 and 30, 31 and 32, in Lee township, and has an admirable farm plant. In addition to his general farming he has for years given close attention to the raising of pure-bred live stock and his operations have been quite successful. In addition to his interests here, Mr. Meldrum owns a handsome bit of residence property in Buffalo and he and his wife spend their winters in that city.

It was on March 27, 1885, at Buffalo, that Elbert D. Meldrum was united in marriage to Grace Darrow, who was born in that city in 1860, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Mrs. Clarabelle Metzger, who lives in Buffalo and has one child, a daughter, Grace E. Mr. and Mrs. Meldrum have a delightful home in Lee township and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community of which they have been members since pioneer days. Mr. Meldrum is a life member of the Masonic order and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that fraternal organization.

JUSTUS C. BERGH.

Justus C. Bergh, one of Norman county's best-known and most substantial farmers, the proprietor of a fine farm in the vicinity of Hendrum, former justice of the peace in and for Hendrum township, president of the village school board, a director of the State Bank at that place, a director of the Equity Co-operative Grain Exchange of St. Paul, of the Farmers Elevator Company at Hendrum, of the Hendrum Creamery Company, a member of the village park board and in other ways interested in and identified with the progress of that village and vicinity, was born on a farm in Vernon county, Wisconsin, November 1, 1869, a son of John J. and Karia J. (Bergh) Bergh, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who later became residents of Norman county, where the former spent his last days and where the latter is still living.

MRS. JUSTICE C. BERGH





JOHN J. BERGH AND FAMILY.

John J. Bergh was about ten years of age when his parents came to this country from Norway, settling in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood and began farming on his own account, being thus engaged at the time of the outbreak of the Civil War. In August, 1862, he enlisted for service in behalf of the Union, a member of Company K, Twenty-fifth Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, Fuller's Division, and with that command served until the close of the war, being mustered out in June, 1865. With the exception of six weeks, during which time he was laid up in the hospital, Mr. Bergh was in active service, participated in all the engagements in which his regiment took part, including some of the most important actions of the war, and was with Sherman on the march to the sea after the close of the Atlanta campaign. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. Bergh returned to his home county in Wisconsin, was married in that county and there continued to make his home until 1880, when he came over into the Red river valley and entered a homestead farm in Trail county, North Dakota. He settled there with his family in 1881 and lived there until 1893, when he moved over into Minnesota and located on a farm in Hendrum township, Norman county, one and one-half miles east of the village of Hendrum, where he spent the rest of his life, his death occurring in 1904, and where his widow is still living. To John J. Bergh and wife fourteen children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Emeline (deceased), Clara, Timan (deceased), Ella (deceased), Hannah, Manda, Otto, Casper (deceased), Karina (deceased), Edmond, Stephen, Herman and Palmer.

Justus C. Bergh was about eleven years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to North Dakota and he completed his elementary schooling in the district schools of Traill county, that state, supplementing the same by a course of two years of study in Willmar Institute at Willmar, this state. His father had a tract of timber land in northern Minnesota and after he left school he was for two years engaged in getting out the timber there and then, in 1892, settled in Hendrum township, Norman county, where he has lived ever since, quite successfully engaged in farming. In 1913 he bought the home farm of two hundred and ninety acres in Hendrum township and is now very well situated there, having one of the best-improved and most profitably operated farms in that part of the state. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Bergh is interested in various concerns of a local character and has done much to help develop the resources of the community in which he lives. He was one of the incorpora-

tors of the Equity Co-operative Grain Exchange of St. Paul and has been a member of the board of directors of the same since its organization. He also is a member of the board of directors of the Equity packing plant at Fargo; is a director of the State Bank of Hendrum, a director of the Farmers Elevator Company there and a member of the board of directors of the Hendrum Creamery Company, in the affairs of all of which concerns he takes an active interest. Mr. Bergh also is closely attentive to local civic affairs and is a member of the village park board. Some years ago he served for some time as justice of the peace in and for his home township and is now serving as president of the local board of education, giving his most intelligent attention to the interest of the schools.

On February 19, 1913, Justus C. Bergh was united in marriage to Clara Aabye, of Perley, a daughter of Andrew Aabye, and to this union one child has been born, a son, John Vincent. Mr. and Mrs. Bergh are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in other neighborhood good works, ever helpful in advancing the cause of the common welfare in the community in which they live.

JOHN P. GROTHE

One of the earliest settlers in Shelly and Halstad townships, Norman county, where he accumulated one thousand acres of good land, was John P. Grothe, who after many years of valuable service in wresting this wild land from its primeval state and in developing this country to the point where future generations can live without enduring the hardships and privations of pioneer life, has passed on to his reward. He was a native of Norway, born on October 4, 1847, a son of John and Karen Grothe, also natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota in 1867 and settled on rented land in Fillmore county, the subject of this memorial sketch then having been twenty years of age. Seeing that they had the opportunity to become landowners in this country, the family joined a party with nine covered wagons drawn by oxen, which had for its destination Norman county. They all drove through together, the journey requiring five or six weeks, as they were looking over the land en route, since they considered it a possibility that they could find a place to establish their home without having to go so far into the wilderness. At first the elder Grothe took a "squatter's" claim in Halstad township, which was at that time unsurveyed

land, the party to which the Grothe family belonged being the second settlers in that neighborhood. John Grothe did not prove up his claim and in 1875 or 1876 removed to Hendrum township and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 18, and there he lived the rest of his life. John and Karen Grothe were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this review was the third in order of birth, the others being Berit, Olena, Nickoli, Christ, Karen, all of whom are dead, and Peter and Albert J., who are living in Hendrum township. The Grothe family were staunch adherents of the Lutheran church, the father having helped to organize the Marsh River church of that denomination, and during his residence in Hendrum township was instrumental in the establishment of the St. Paul Lutheran church.

John P. Grothe received his early education in Norway and after he came to America, when he was twenty years old, he had to spend some time in learning the English language. He located with his parents in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and, in 1871, he drove through with a yoke of oxen to Norman county and settled at once on Marsh river, where he homesteaded a quarter of section of land, and there his family still lives. The land was all new then and nothing but vast stretches of the fertile prairie greeted the eyes of the sturdy settlers. By dint of unflagging industry and great perseverance, he succeeded in bringing his holding under cultivation. As the years passed and as prosperity smiled upon his efforts, he was enabled from time to time to extend his holdings and when his death occurred he was the owner of one thousand acres of excellent, well-improved land in Shelly and Halstad townships, the home place being in the latter civil division.

On January 4, 1883, John P. Grothe was united in marriage to Bertha Marie Christopher, who still survives her husband. She was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, a daughter of Bartel and Serena (Olson) Christopherson, natives of Norway, who decided to immigrate to the United States. At first they settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, but later they drove through in covered wagons to Norman county and settled on a homestead in Halstad township. There they remained the rest of their lives, the death of the mother occurring two years after that of the father. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom only four grew to maturity: Bessie Marie, the widow of the subject of this review; Olaus Holm, Marie and Serena. Bartel Christopherson and family were devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, the father having helped to organize the Augustana Lutheran church.

To Mr. and Mrs. John P. Grothe six children were born, all of whom are living, namely: Cornelia, wife of Theodore Osterson; Charles B., Palmer O., Minnie, Joseph B. and Clarence. The Grothes are members of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination and the father helped to organize the Augustana church of that creed. Mr. Grothe also was always deeply interested in the advancement of the civic and industrial well-being of his neighborhood.

JOSEPH W. G. ANDERSON

Joseph W. G. Anderson, well-known banker of Norman county, president of the State Bank of Shelly and a stockholder and director in eight banks in this part of the state, North Dakota and Montana, former president of the village of Shelly and who also has extensive lumber and real-estate interests hereabout, was born in the neighboring state of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota for the past twenty years and during his residence here has come to be recognized as one of the real "live wires" of this part of the state. He was born on a farm in Vernon county, Wisconsin, March 11, 1871, son of Ole and Rachel Anderson, the former a native of Sweden and the latter of Norway, who were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being A. O., Olaus (deceased), Caroline, Norton, Bennett (deceased), James, Albert and Josephine. Ole Anderson was but a lad when he came to this country with his parents, Andrew Anderson and wife, from his native Sweden, the family settling in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood, married, engaged in farming and there spent the remainder of his life, a substantial and useful citizen. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm in Wisconsin, Joseph W. G. Anderson received his early schooling in the schools of that neighborhood and completed the same in the high school at Hillsboro, North Dakota. Upon completing his schooling he was given a position in the First National Bank of Hillsboro and remained thus employed for ten years, becoming thoroughly familiar with the details of the banking business. He then went to Caledonia, North Dakota, where he was further engaged in banking for a period of three years, at the end of which time, in 1898, he came over the line into Minnesota and at Shelly helped to organize the First State Bank of that village. Upon the organization of this bank Mr. Anderson was made cashier of the same and

served in that capacity until the fall of 1916, when he was elected president of the bank, which position he now holds, one of the best-known bankers in this part of the state, North Dakota and Montana. In addition to his banking interests at Shelly Mr. Anderson is a stockholder and a member of the board of directors of seven other banks and has been a large influence in the work of developing the resources of this section, ever helpful in promoting movements designed to advance the common welfare. He also has extensive lumber and real-estate interests and is one of the well-to-do men of Norman county. Mr. Anderson also has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and has served as president of his home village.

In 1901 Joseph W. G. Anderson was united in marriage to Caroline Tronnes, who was born in the Red River valley. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have a very pleasant home at Shelly and take a proper part in the general social activities of the community. They are members of the Lutheran church and, fraternally, Mr. Anderson is affiliated with the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Woodmen of America.

GUNERIUS I. CROSBY.

Gunerius I. Crosby, the first homesteader in Lee township, Norman county, where he carries on general farming and stock raising on his fine farm of four hundred and forty acres, is a native of Norway, born in March, 1856, a son of Iver Jenson and Anna Christina Crosby, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former came to America with his son, Gunerius, with whom he lived, helping with the farm work on the old homestead until he died at the age of sixty-eight years in 1889. The mother died while the family lived in the old country, when the subject of this review was only six years of age. The elder Crosby and wife were the parents of five children: Jens, who died at Minneapolis in 1873; Gunerius I., the subject of this sketch; Anna, the widow of Nels Odegaard; Johannah, who lived with her brother, Gunerius I., until her death in 1883, and another brother, who died in Norway, the last two being twins.

Gunerius I. Crosby spent the early years of his life at the old home back in Norway, where he received his early schooling; but early missed the guiding counsel of his mother, who died when he was a child of six years. Soon after he had reached man's estate he decided to cast his lot with others of his countrymen who were coming to America, and in 1872 he and his father landed and came directly out to Minnesota, settling in Good

hue county, where some of their friends were located. There they remained on a farm for six years, at the end of which time they removed to Rice county, Minnesota, living there on a farm for a period of three years. Hearing that excellent opportunities awaited settlers up in the Red River country, they came on up into Norman county and there the son homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 34, of Lee township, which land at that time was nothing more than a part of the vast expanse of raw prairie which stretched off in the distance. For the first few years of farming on his new holding, Mr. Crosby's equipment was clumsy, since he had only a yoke of oxen and a few of the most essential implements, but as the years passed he was enabled to increase and perfect his equipment until he had developed on the spot which was formerly a wilderness of prairie an excellent farm plant. He remained on his homestead until 1892, in which year he sold his holding and bought four hundred and forty acres in sections 15 and 22, Lee township, which tract he has continued to own. In the fall of 1899 Mr. Crosby went to Oregon and there bought land, which he later sold when he returned to his place in Lee township. On his home place here he has made substantial improvements, including a new, modern, comfortable farm house. A good barn, erected in 1882, was on the place when he bought it and is still standing.

On June 16, 1881, Mr. Crosby was united in marriage to Sophia Larson, who was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, on April 6, 1860, a daughter of Elias and Ingelborg (Selland) Larson. To this union eight children have been born, namely: Ida, who died in 1915, at the age of thirty-two years; Julia, the wife of J. M. Olson, now living in Montana; Emma, a teacher, who lives at home; James and Gilbert, both married and living in Montana; Ella, a nurse at Grand Forks; Agnes, who is studying music at Fargo, and Norman, at home. Mrs. Crosby's father and mother died on the old homestead in Nicollet county, ten miles west of St. Peter. Elias Larson was the first postmaster of Norseland, Minnesota. He and his wife had nine children, of whom two sons and two daughters are still living and four daughters and one son are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Crosby are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, in the faith of which denomination they have reared their children.

Mr. Crosby has been and is a very active man in his community. He, with the other progressive farmers of this section of the country, have left behind the old system of exclusive grain farming and he carries on a scientific kind of diversified farming along with his rather extensive stock raising. In the civil affairs of the township he has taken an active part, having served as a member of the board of township supervisors and as treasurer

of the local school board. He also is a participant in the business interests of this vicinity, being a director of the Farmers Elevator Company at Perley, which he helped to organize, and holding stock in the First State Bank of that place. Politically, Mr. Crosby is independent.

HALVOR O. RASK.

Halvor O. Rask, the owner of five hundred and forty acres of Hendrum township (Norman county) land, where he lived, a banker and well-known business man, was born in Norway, November 15, 1851, the son of Ole C. and Ingeborg (Vermager) Rask, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1857 and settled in Houston county, Minnesota, where they bought a farm and where they remained until their deaths. When the elder Rask bought this tract, which contained eighty acres, it was covered with grubs and stones, a condition which did not permit its being speedily brought under cultivation. Nevertheless, the family set to work to improve the farm, and eventually bountiful crops repaid them for their labors. Ole C. Rask and wife were the parents of six children, namely: Christ, now dead, who served in a Minnesota regiment during the Civil War; Peder, deceased, also a member of a Minnesota regiment and a veteran of the Civil War; Carrie; Petter; Halvor O., and Halvor J.

When Halvor O. Rask first breathed the air of America, he was not yet six years of age, and when he was only ten years of age, his older brothers, Christ and Peder, showed their true American spirit by heeding the call of their adopted country and marching away for service during the Civil War. Until he was past twenty years of age, Mr. Rask worked on the home place, contributing his efforts to the making of the improvements necessary to the bringing of the land under cultivation; but in 1877 he struck out for himself. Having inherited part of the home farm he bought the rest and farmed there until 1877, when he came to Norman county and bought three hundred acres of Hendrum township land. However, he did not come here to live until 1882. In that year he began the improvement of his holding by planting groves and raising good, substantial farm buildings. As the years of his industry passed, he extended his possessions until now he owns five hundred acres of well-improved land, on which he carries on general farming.

Nellie Bye, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, in May, 1857, the daughter of Andrew and Sophia (Sownes) Bye, became the wife

of Halvor O. Rask on May 20, 1878. To Mr. and Mrs. Rask eight children have been born as follow: Oliver, Ida, Alma, Arthur and Stella, all of whom are dead; Oliver, now living in North Dakota; and Stella and Ruby, living at home with their parents. The Rask family are members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take a deep and active interest. Mr. Rask is a Prohibitionist, and in the civil affairs of his township takes a good citizen's interest.

Mr. Rask has been and is deeply interested in furthering the business interests of his community, since he helped to organize at Hendrum the creamery, the farmers elevator, the local telephone company and the State Bank. At present he is a director of the elevator and the telephone companies, and has been president of the State Bank since its organization.

LOUIS T. LARSON

One of the farmers of Spring Prairie township, Clay county, who has found life on the farm desirable in every way is Louis T. Larson, who was born in Norway on December 25, 1864. He is a son of Lars and Gesene Andria (Torkelson) Larson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home. The father died there in 1915 and the mother is still living at the old home there. To these parents nine children were born, Trena, Maria, Louis, Anna, Tonnis, Louise, Amelia, Adolph (deceased) and Lena.

Louis T. Larson grew to manhood in Norway and there he attended the common schools. He heard of the fine opportunities for the young man of grit in the vast Northwest of the American continent and when but a boy, resolved to try his fortune there, so he made the long trip from his native land to Minnesota, reaching Clay county in April, 1884, where he joined his sister, Trena Torkilson, who had come here the year previously. He worked in Glyndon township on farms, also in North Dakota a few years. In 1890 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres in section 28 of Spring Prairie township, Clay county, and there he has since made his home. He has developed an excellent farm, putting up all buildings and making other necessary improvements, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully, having made a specialty of Shropshire sheep ever since he began farming for himself. He is now owner of four hundred acres of valuable land, constituting one of the choice farms of Spring



MRS. AND MISS LOUIS T. LARSON.

Prairie township. He devoted his attention exclusively to his large farming interests and has no inclination to political affairs whatever, other than to perform a good citizen's part in his community, assisting in whatever makes for the general upbuilding and good of the same.

On March 29, 1890, Mr. Larson was married to Jennie Lindahl, a native of Sweden and a daughter of John Lindahl, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume. John Lindahl was born in Sweden in 1833 and there he married Sarah Johnson in 1857. They continued to reside in their native land until 1882, when they immigrated to America, locating first in Cass county, North Dakota; then came to Minnesota about a year later and located on a homestead in Spring Prairie township, Clay county, which they developed into a good farm and where they have since resided. They are both now well advanced in years, Mr. Lindahl being eighty-four years of age. His family consisted of sixteen children, as set out in the biographical sketch of this pioneer which appears on another page of this volume.

To Louis T. Larson and wife thirteen children have been born, four of whom are deceased. Adolph, the eldest son, joined the United States navy and died of sickness, while in the service. The nine living children are Lena, Esther, Theodore, Fred, Ray, Louisa, Joseph, Alma and Norman. Politically, Mr. Larson is a Republican. He has been treasurer of Spring Prairie township for many years and also for many years has been a member of the school board, still continuing active in these offices. Formerly the entire township constituted one school district and Mr. Larson helped organize the same.

K. M. DANIELS.

K. M. Daniels, one of Clay county's well-known farmers, was born in Jackson county, Iowa, September 3, 1867, a son of K. C. and Emeline (Rose) Daniels, both of whom were born in Mercer county, Pennsylvania.

The father of our subject went to Jackson county, Iowa, when a young man, and after a few years spent at that place he went to Ida county, Iowa. In the fall of 1880 he came to Minnesota and located on a homestead in Humboldt township, about three miles north of Barnesville, in Clay county. In this homestead there were about one hundred and eighteen acres which he improved and farmed until his death, which occurred in 1891, at the age of sixty-seven years. His wife died in 1913, at the age of eighty-four

years. They had five children: Sarah, Mary, K. M., Cinderella and Nancy, the latter of whom died at the age of seventeen years. The father of our subject was a member of the Baptist church; the mother was a Presbyterian.

K. M. Daniels was educated in the public schools of Iowa and in the schools of Clay county, which latter he attended after coming to this county, and while a boy worked on his father's farm. About 1890 he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres located in Elkton township, Clay county, and lived on that farm for about five years. In the fall of 1901 he bought one hundred and eighty-seven acres, the farm which he now owns, and has there carried on general farming ever since.

Mr. Daniels has been twice married. His first wife was Anna Buckingham. After her death he married Laura Shave, in 1901. She is a sister of Walter Shave, whose personal sketch appears in another place in this work. Argall is the only child by the first marriage; the children by the second marriage are: Winnifred, Lucile, Dorothea, Ruth, Murrell and Lester.

Mr. Daniels is a member of the Presbyterian church and has served as trustee of the church. While living in Humboldt township he was township supervisor.

ANDREW HAALAND.

The late Andrew Haaland, who died on his well-kept farm in Lee township, Norman county, in February, 1910, and whose widow is still living there, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, as is his widow, and they were married in that country, the latter being nineteen years of age at the time. She was born, Gertrude Moran, on October 8, 1863, and is the elder of two daughters born to her parents, she having a sister, Lillie, now living in Minneapolis. Her father died in the old country and her mother later married Nels Norvick and came to this country, settling on a forty-acre farm west of where Mrs. Haaland now lives. Mr. Norvick died in 1903 and his widow later disposed of her farm and has since made her home with Mrs. Haaland, where she is now living at the age of ninety years. Andrew Haaland's parents never came to this country and their last days were spent in their native Norway. Andrew was the last-born of the six children born to them, the others being Lars, Johannes, Golick, Anna and Malinda, all of whom still live in Norway.

Andrew Haaland was twenty-six years of age when he and his wife came to the United States. Three years after their arrival in this country they became residents of the Red River country and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 1 of Lee township, Norman county, on which they established their home. Mr. Haaland was an industrious and progressive farmer and as he prospered in his undertakings made substantial improvements on his place and bought an additional tract of forty acres in Hegne township, and bought later the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 1, township of Lee, making his holdings two hundred and forty acres of fine land, which his widow now owns. He was an enterprising citizen, ever interested in such movements as would aid in the development of his home community and was one of the organizers of the local creamery company at Perley and a stockholder in the same. He died in February, 1910, he then being fifty-eight years of age, and his passing was much lamented in the community, for he had done well his part in all his relations with his fellow men.

To Andrew and Gertrude (Moran) Haaland were born ten children, namely: Andrew, who is married and is now making his home at Moorhead; John, who also is married and who is making his home at Perley, where he is proprietor of the hotel; Selmar, who is at home; Odin, who also is at home and who is managing the farm for his mother; Oscar and Paul, also at home; Mrs. Anna Enger, of Hendrum, and Hannah, Gina and Mable, at home. The Haalands have a very pleasant home in Lee township and have ever given their interested attention to movements having to do with the advancement of the common good thereabout and to the various social activities and good works of their home community.

ALBERT J. GROTHE.

Albert J. Grothe, member of the board of county commissioners of Norman county and a substantial farmer living in Hendrum township since he came to Norman county, is a native of Norway, born on November 7, 1856, the son of John and Kare Grothe, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1867 and settled on rented land in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Seeing that they had the opportunity to become landowners by settling in the Red River valley, the family joined a party with nine covered wagons drawn by oxen, which had for its destination somewhere in the Red

River valley, and they all drove through together, the journey requiring five or six weeks, as they were looking over the land en route. At first the elder Grothe took a "squatter's" claim in Halstad township, Norman county, which at that time was unsurveyed land, the party to which the Grothe family belonged being the second group of settlers in that township. John Grothe did not prove up his claim and in 1875 or 1876 removed to Hendrum township and took a homestead of one hundred acres in section 18, and there he lived the rest of his life. His widow lived with the children until her death. The elder Grothe and wife were the parents of eight children, namely: Berit, Olena, John, Nickoli, Christ, Karen, all of whom are dead, and Peter and Albert J., both of whom are living in Hendrum township. The Grothe family were staunch adherents to the Lutheran faith, the father having helped organize the Marsh River Lutheran church of Halstad township, and during his residence in Hendrum township was instrumental in the establishment of the St. Paul Lutheran church there.

Albert J. Grothe was only eleven years old when his parents brought him to America and his later education was very much limited, there being then but few schools in Fillmore county, where he spent his boyhood, and he had to work hard. When his parents moved to Hendrum township, Norman county, he came with them and there he has continued to live. For six years after his parents became permanently settled, he remained on the home place contributing his share of industry to its improvement, but in 1882 he started out for himself and bought one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land in Hendrum township, and on this place he has continued to live. He immediately began to improve his farm, which was wild prairie land, by putting its stubborn sod under cultivation and by raising good farm buildings, around which he planted groves. His earnest efforts enabled him soon to reap where he had so carefully sown, for he extended his holdings at times until he now has a place of two hundred and sixty-five acres, on which he carries on general farming.

Just after he began farming on his own account, Mr. Grothe was united in marriage, in May, 1883, to Karen Snustad, born in Norway, October 15, 1865, the daughter of Ole and Karen (Troan) Snustad, who came to seek a home in the New World in 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Grothe are the parents of the following children: Oliver, James, Chris, Carl, Bennet, Olena, Alma, Nora, all of whom are living. Mr. Grothe and family are members of the Lutheran church, of which denomination they are zealous and conscientious adherents.

Mr. Grothe is independent in his political views. He has been called upon by his neighbors to serve the community in public office; was township supervisor for several years and is now serving as county commissioner. He has also taken a keen interest in the common business agencies of his community, for he helped to organize the companies operating the farmers elevator, the creamery and the Farmers State Bank, all of Hendrum.

ALBERT CARLSON.

Among the native-born Swedes who have come to America and engaged in farming and stock raising, is Albert Carlson, well-known and extensive farmer and stockman of Glyndon township, Clay county. He was born in Sweden in 1872, a son of Charlie and Oleana Anderson, who were also born in that country.

Charlie Anderson, who was a farmer in Sweden, was born in 1852 and died at the early age of thirty-one years in 1883, having spent all of his life in his native country. His wife, Oleana Anderson, was born in 1848 and died at the age of sixty-one years, in 1909. They were the parents of seven children: Hanna, who is married and living in Sweden; Albert Carlson, the subject of this sketch, and Emma, Andrew, Anna, Anthony and Andrew, all deceased. Charlie Anderson and his wife were members of the Swedish Lutheran church.

Albert Carlson was educated in the schools of Sweden and thereafter spent some few years at farming work. At the age of nineteen he immigrated to the United States and since 1891 has been a resident of Clay county. He has been engaged in farming ever since and has in a comparatively short period advanced to a position which places him in the front rank among the farmers and stockmen of the county. He bought his first tract of land in 1898 and has since been gradually adding to his holdings and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of fine land, in addition to which he rents and farms eleven hundred and sixty-eight acres, and has one hundred acres planted to potatoes. His live stock is comprised of grade Short-horn cattle, thoroughbred stallions and Poland China hogs, and in all his farming operations he has done very well, being recognized as one of the progressive and modern-method farmers of the district in which he lives. Mr. Carlson carried out a systematic series of improvements on his farms and employs tractors and steam engines to assist in taking care of his exten-

sive farming interests, his farm machinery alone being valued at five thousand dollars.

In 1896 Albert Carlson was united in marriage to Christina Mattson, who was born in Sweden, in 1873, and who came to the United States in 1892. They are the parents of the following children: Eugene Carl, Alice Viola, Mildred Irene, Loraine Doris and Leah Evelyn, twins, and Inez Catherine. They are members of the First Presbyterian church, which Mr. Carlson serves as a trustee and as an elder and in the affairs of which congregation the Carlson family take a proper interest, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they reside, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the township and neighborhood.

EDWARD H. STENNES

A natural-born American citizen, in whom is combined the thrift of his parents' native land and the enterprise of the American spirit, is Edward H. Stennes, who was born on the old homestead in Halstad township, Norman county, September 21, 1881, the son of Hans O. and Ingeborg (Ness) Stennes. The elder Stennes and wife were natives of Norway, who heeded the call of the New World and came to America about 1870 and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained until 1875. Feeling that they could find a better opportunity to establish their home in the new land farther north in the state, in the year mentioned above they came up into the Red River country and homesteaded eighty acres in Halstad township, Norman county, where their son, Edward, now lives. At that time the land comprising the homestead was bare prairie, but by their indomitable perseverance and consummate thrift, the family improved their holding by planting a grove, raising strong and substantial buildings and bringing the stubborn sod of the rolling prairie under cultivation. The natural consequence was that the family prospered and finally the father was enabled to extend his holdings by the acquisition of another eighty acres, which he bought. The elder Stennes and wife were the parents of seven children, namely: Olena, the wife of John D. Henry, living in Grand Forks, North Dakota; Edward H., the subject of this review; Marie and Emma, who live on the home place with Edward H., and Clara, Ole and Henry, who are dead. Hans Stennes and family were members of the Lutheran church, of which

faith he and his good wife remained strong adherents until their deaths occurred on the old home place.

Edward H. Stennes received his early education in Halstad township, Norman county, during his boyhood days on the old homestead. As he grew to manhood, however, he received the training of the skilled agriculturalist, as he is, behind the plow in his father's field. After he had arrived at man's estate, he did not leave the parental roof-tree, but remained on the home farm, looking after his parents' agricultural and business interests, during their decline. Since their deaths he has remained on the home farm with his sister, carrying on general farming and stock raising. Mr. Stennes is a stock breeder of note and deals in thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle.

Mr. Stennes is a devout, consistent and conscientious member of the Lutheran church, which denomination has in him a staunch adherent. He is an advocate of sound political principles, but has never sought after office. If any movement is started in the community, the state or the nation which gains the attention of good citizens, such a movement will find among its ardent supporters Edward H. Stennes.

PATRICK DULLARD.

Patrick Dullard, president of the water and light commission of the city of Ada and one of Norman county's best-known retired pioneer farmers, is a native of Ireland, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was eighteen years of age. He was born on November 6, 1852, son of John and Julia (Rine) Dullard, also natives of Ireland, who spent all their lives in that country. There Patrick Dullard learned the carpenter trade as a boy and when eighteen years of age came to the United States and proceeded at once on out to Minnesota, locating in Faribault county. That was in 1870. There he found ready employment at his trade and presently became engaged on the bridge-construction force of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company, in 1872 moving to St. Paul in that employ. While thus engaged, in 1877, Mr. Dullard, who was married in that year, was sent out to this part of the state to superintend the erection of railway stations and he was so greatly taken with the apparent possibilities of this part of the state that he homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 30 of what later came to be organized as McDonaldsville township, Norman county, and some time afterward established his home there.

For three years after coming to this part of the state Patrick Dullard retained his connection with the railroad work and then he began contracting on his own account, as a bridge builder and general carpenter, in the meantime continuing to develop his homestead tract, and as he prospered added to his land holdings until he became the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land, engaging there in general farming and stock raising until his retirement from the active labors of the farm and removal to Ada, where he since has made his home and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Since retiring from the farm Mr. Dullard has sold his land and has made other investments. During his residence on the farm he for some time served as a member of the board of township supervisors of McDonaldsville township and is now serving the public as president of the water and light commission of the city of Ada.

As noted above, it was in 1877 that Patrick Dullard was united in marriage to Ellen McLaughlin, who was born in Vermont, a daughter of Patrick McLaughlin and wife, and to this union five children have been born, Edward Henry, Arthur James, Katherine, William Raymond and Joseph Benjamin, all of whom are living. Mr. Dullard is a member of the local lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America and in the affairs of these two organizations takes a warm and active interest.

THE GILBERTSON BROTHERS.

The Gilbertson brothers, Albert and Cornelius, well-known farmers and stock raisers of Halstad township, Norman county, where they operate jointly the old Gilbertson homestead of five hundred and three acres, are the sons of Ole and Christie (Monson) Gilbertson, both natives of Norway. Ole Gilbertson, one of the pioneers of Halstad township, was a son of Gilbert Klemmer and wife, the latter of whom died in her native Norway. In 1861, bringing with him his aged father and his two children, Anna and Gilbert, whose mother had died in Norway, he came to the United States and settled in Richland county, Wisconsin, where he met and married Christie Monson, who had followed her parents to America, two years after they had left their native country and settled in Grant county, Wisconsin. Her parents later removed to North Dakota and settled with some of their children who resided there, where they spent the rest of their lives. Years after their marriage Ole Gilbertson and wife left Richland



OLD GILBRETHSON AND FAMILY.

county, Wisconsin and came to Minnesota, settling in Halstad township, Norman county, where the former bought land and farmed until his death, at which time his holdings had been increased to five hundred acres of improved farming land. Ole Gilbertson, who was the father of fourteen children, was married three times, and Christie Monson was his last wife. By his first wife he had two children, Gilbert O., and Anna, wife of Peter Hagenston; by his second wife, Janie, who married Stev Nelson; by the third wife, Christie Monson: Magnus O., a well-known resident of Anthony township; Olaf; Albert and Cornelius, the subjects of this review; Gust; Clara, who married Anton Orvick; Oscar; Andie; Tilla, wife of Ole Orvick; Clarence and Marie, all of whom are still living.

Albert Gilbertson, who was born in Richland county, Wisconsin, August 8, 1877, attended there the public schools and worked on his father's farm. When he was fourteen years of age, his father decided to take his family to Norman county, Minnesota, and there young Albert in 1891, got his first real taste of pioneer life on the home place in Halstad township, where he now lives with his brother, Cornelius. The Norwegian thrift which he inherited from his parents, together with his inborn American spirit of enterprise have made him one of the most successful farmers in Halstad township. Mr. Gilbertson is an adherent of the Norwegian Lutheran creed, and is a member of the Marsh River Lutheran church, in the affairs of which he takes a warm interest. Politically, he is a staunch advocate of independent policies. He has never sought after public office; withal, however, he is very much alive to the social and business progress of his community.

Cornelius Gilbertson, too, was born in Richland county, Wisconsin, April 2, 1879, somewhat less than two years after the birth of his brother, Albert. There, in his native county, he attended the public schools and acquired some very valuable experience on his father's farm, which stood him in good stead when his parents came to Norman county, in 1891, and settled on their holding on the vast, unbroken prairie. On the date of his parents' removal he was only twelve years of age, but being a son of pioneer parents, he readily applied himself to the great task, which confronted the family, of improving their holdings and bringing the stubborn prairie under cultivation. Growing up under these conditions, Mr. Gilbertson is now one of the most successful farmers in Halstad township (where he and his brother, Albert, operate jointly the old home place), having received his training in the hard school of experience. Mr. Gilbertson is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and is deeply con-

cerned with the furtherance of its various beneficences. He also takes an active interest in local civic affairs, and is now serving his community as township supervisor. When any meritorious undertaking is launched in his community, it is sure to find in Mr. Gilbertson a staunch supporter.

In addition to their general farming, the Gilbertson brothers are breeders of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. They find time in their extensive farming operations to interest themselves in the work of bettering the market facilities of the township, and helped to organize the creamery and the farmers elevator at Halstad.

OLE O. HILDE

Successful farming calls for the best of judgment. It means good crops, good live stock, well fed and handled, and a thoroughly balanced business in every way. No business, in fact, needs better management all around than farming. So many chances for failure are present that it is the exceptional farm that is strong in every particular. One of the best-kept farms in Hagen township, Clay county, is that owned and operated by Ole O. Hilde, who seems to have mastered the various ins and outs of the business.

Mr. Hilde was born in Norway in 1864. He is a son of Ole and Margit (Johnson) Hilde, both natives of Norway, where they spent all their lives. The father was a blacksmith by trade. To these parents six children were born, all of whom are living at this writing and who are named as follow: Aase, who lives in Norway; Ingeborg, the wife of Ole Halverson, of Stearns county, Minnesota; Ragnild, the wife of Tom Peterson, who lives in North Dakota; John, who lives in Norway, and Ole O., the subject of this sketch.

Ole O. Hilde spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended school. He came to Minnesota in the spring of 1885 and located in Stearns county, where he worked out as a farm hand until 1887, then came to Clay county, locating in Hagen township, where he has since resided. Upon his arrival here he took up a tree claim right of one hundred and sixty acres. He lived on it three years then sold out and moved to his present farm, taking up one hundred and sixty acres as a homestead. He broke up the wild prairie sod, fenced it, set out a grove and erected suitable buildings. Prospering with advancing years he added to his original purchase until he now owns a fine farm of two hundred and eighty-three acres, one of the choice farms of the township, and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Hilde was married in 1886, in Stearns county, this state, to Guri Anderson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Andres and Anna (Tolefsdatter) Christianson, who lived and died in Norway. The father was employed on a large farm there. His family consisted of the following children: Mrs. Maria Elling, who lives in Norway; Christian, who also lives in Norway; Guri, wife of the subject of this sketch; Anna, the wife of L. Dahl, of Norman county, Minnesota, and Tolef A. Green, who lives in Hagen township, Clay county.

Eight children, all living but one, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hilde, namely: Matilda, who is the wife of I. B. Klevgard; Anna, who married Theodore Tweeton; Oscar, next in order of birth; Theodore, the fourth child; Alfred, deceased, and John, Carl, Inga and Melvin. Politically, Mr. Hilde is a Republican. He is a member of the school board in his district and has been treasurer of the same for many years. He and his family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, which they attend regularly.

REV. O. A. TH. SOLEM.

The Rev. O. A. Th. Solem, a retired minister of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the present owner and operator of a well-appointed fruit farm and nursery, in Halstad township, Norman county, was born in Norway, on March 6, 1855, the son of Thomas and Andrea (Stuphoug) Solem, both of whom left the land of their birth in 1870 and came to America. Here they settled in Union county, South Dakota, near the postoffice of Spink, Elk Point then being their nearest railroad station. Soon the elder Solem bought a farm near where the family first settled, and there he lived until his death in 1911. His wife died on the same place in 1915, surviving her husband only four years. To Thomas and Andrea Solem were born five children, the subject of this review being the first in order of birth, and the others, as follow: Andrew, who lives on the old farm in South Dakota; Maria; Henry, a Lutheran minister at Garretson, South Dakota, and Hannah, who still lives on the old home place with her brother, Andrew.

O. A. Th. Solem spent his boyhood in Norway, the land of his nativity, where he attended the public schools and at the same time studied English in a private educational institution. After he had reached the estate of manhood, he came to America with his parents, he then being about twenty-five years of age. He remained with his parents on their farm in Union county, South Dakota, for three years, in which time he had seen them become com-

fortably situated upon their holdings. About 1873, feeling that he had been called to preach the gospel for the Lutheran denomination, he left his pioneer home, the more completely to prepare himself for his lofty calling at the Augustana Seminary, near Decorah, Iowa, where he studied for one year, at the end of which time the institution was moved to Marshall, Wisconsin, and there Mr. Solem pursued his studies until he was graduated in the spring of 1877. Being thus thoroughly fitted for his work, he was ordained a minister in the summer of that year and was called to minister to the spiritual needs of the Norwegian Lutheran congregation in Chippewa county, Minnesota, where he remained for four years. In the summer of 1881 he became the pastor of the Augustana Norwegian Lutheran church in Halstad township, Norman county, and there he assiduously applied himself to his duties as minister of this pioneer congregation until 1904 or 1905, when he resigned, thus completing here an extraordinarily long pastorate of twenty-two or twenty-three years. Since then Mr. Solem has been engrossed altogether in his agricultural pursuits, finding that the soil embraced a field for his ministerial endeavors as did the church, for in the growing things he could see the clear manifestation of the power of the Almighty.

After his resignation, Mr. Solem, who had farmed along with his pastoral duties, the congregation having furnished its pastor with forty acres of land, remained in Halstad township, where he purchased a well-watered and fertile tract for his own purposes, on which he has continued a fruit farm and nursery. Since he relinquished his ministerial duties, Mr. Solem has given his undivided attention to fruit farming, and the generations to come will bless him as one of the men who made possible the growing of the luscious apple, the pink cheeked peach and the new plum, where formerly stretched away the trackless prairie.

On January 7, 1877, the year after he was graduated from Augustana Seminary, at Marshall, Wisconsin, the Rev. O. A. Th. Solem was united in marriage to Johannah Sylte, who was born in Norway, on September 17, 1859, the daughter of Knut Sylte and Marit (Sylte) Sylte. To this union no children were born, but one child was adopted, Minnie Roksvaag. After the death of his first wife, in January, 1882, Mr. Solem married Ella Sylte, born on February 1, 1857, a sister of his first wife. By his second wife, Mr. Solem is the father of five children, namely: Johannah, Thomas, Minnie, Bergliot (deceased), and Knut.

Mr. Solem finds time during his engrossing work on the fruit farm to give a good citizen's attention to the affairs of his community, and any movement, agitated for the material or social betterment of his neighborhood,

finds in him and his family hearty supporters. He and his wife remain members of the Augustana Lutheran church, in the creed of which denomination they have reared their children. Politically, Mr. Solem is a staunch Prohibitionist, but he has never sought after public office.

CONRAD H. EVJE.

After thirty-eight years of hard work on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Shelly township, Norman county, which bears eloquent testimony to his tireless industry during the years of his prime, Conrad H. Evje lives now in retirement on the original tract which he homesteaded years ago when he first came to Norman county. He is a son of Hans G. and Gertina (Christophersdatter) Evje and was born in Norway on October 28, 1856. Both his father and mother were natives of Norway, but the inducement of coming to America did not lure them from their fatherland, where they remained until their deaths, the father being a farmer. Hans G. Evje was married twice and by his first wife he had seven children, all of whom died in infancy except Tolak who lived and died in Norway. His second wife, the mother of Conrad H. Evje, born him ten children; three of whom died young, the others being: Christopher, John Christian (deceased), Tobias (deceased), Martina, Conrad H., Gabriel and Christina (deceased).

Conrad H. Evje received his early education in Norway and when he had reached the buoyant age of eighteen decided to come to America. It was in 1874 when he first set foot on these shores and in that same year he located near LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he remained for five years, working at different occupations, including lumbering in the woods in winter and rafting in the summer. The spring of 1879 saw him leave the lumber camps and strike out into Minnesota toward the then newly opened Red River country, settling in Norman county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 2 of Shelly township. There he has since lived, continuous owner of the original homestead until the spring of 1917, when he sold out to his son-in-law, John Busse. Though no longer owning the farm, Mr. Evje and wife continue to live on the old home place in well-earned retirement, enjoying the later years of their lives on the farm which they developed from the raw prairie into a tract of well-cultivated land.

Mr. Evje was united in marriage with Carolina Regina Langhus, who was born in Vernon county, Wisconsin, on September 1, 1866, a daughter of Michel and Serie Christine Langhus. To this union six children have been born, namely: Gertina Christina, Clara Marie, Hans Gabriel (deceased), Constance Louise, Ricka and Josephine Mathilde. Mr. and Mrs. Evje are both consistent and conscientious members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and in the creed of this denomination they have reared their children. Mr. Evje helped to organize the Zion Lutheran church. Being a progressive farmer, he along with several of his neighbors some years ago recognized the need of better facilities for the marketing of their dairy products and accordingly organized the creamery at Shelly. Even though Mr. Evje has the interest of a good American citizen in the civic affairs of his community, he has never sought after office, but any movement in his neighborhood which has for its purpose the material and social betterment of the community finds in him hearty and loyal support. Mr. Evje is a member of the Republican party, and is a strong advocate of its principles and policies.

CHARLES R. KALL.

Charles R. Kall, a well-known contractor at Moorhead, who gives his particular attention to house-moving, although he also engages in carpentering, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was two years of age. He was born in 1877, son of P. J. and Caroline Kall, also natives of Sweden, who came to this country in the spring of 1870 and proceeded on out to the Red River valley, arriving at Moorhead on May 2 of that year.

In his native country P. J. Kall had been engaged as a bricklayer, but upon coming here he determined to become a farmer and with that end in view presently homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres over the river in Cass county, South Dakota, about twelve miles southwest of Fargo. Floods arose, however, sweeping away what early improvements he made on that place and he presently moved over onto the Minnesota side of the river and was there engaged in farming until about twenty years ago, when he gave up the farm and engaged in mason contracting at Moorhead, where he ever since has been thus engaged, doing a general business in brick masonry and cement contracting. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Mission church and to them six children have been born, those besides the subject of this sketch, the second in order of birth, being Elizabeth (deceased).

one who died in infancy, Axel (deceased), Ella (deceased) and Oscar.

As noted above Charles R. Kall was but two years of age when his parents came to this country and he thus has spent all his active life in and about Moorhead. Upon completing his schooling in the schools of that city he continued working on the home farm for a few years and then became an assistant to his father in the brick-laying way. About twenty years ago he equipped himself with an outfit for the moving of houses and has since then been a general contractor in that line, doing the bulk of the business done in a house-moving way in and about Moorhead. He also is a carpenter and works at that trade during the periods not engaged in house moving.

In 1908 Charles R. Kall was united in marriage to Blanche L. Piper, of Minneapolis, and to this union three children have been born, George, Evelyn and Robert.

HANS P. OIEN.

Among the well-known citizens and substantial landowners in the immediate vicinity of Shelly, in Norman county, is Hans P. Oien, proprietor of a fine farm on Marsh river near the village. He also has interests in the local elevator and lumber company at Shelly and in other ways has displayed his public spirit in promoting the development of that community. Mr. Oien is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born on August 10, 1850, a son of P. A. and Gertrude (Lilledahl) Oien, who came to the United States with their family in 1869 and settled in Houston county, this state, where both spent their last days. P. A. Oien was eighty-three years of age at the time of his death. He and his wife had five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Ole, Benet M., Margareta and Rogna.

Hans P. Oien was eighteen years of age when he came to Minnesota with his parents in the spring of 1869 and he became a valuable aid in the labors of developing the home place in Houston county. In 1876 he was united in marriage there to Gunil Velker and later came up into the Red River country and bought the land on Marsh river on which he established his home and where he is still living, one of the real pioneers of the north-western part of Norman county. He planted a grove upon settling there and the same is now an attractive feature of the landscape in that section. Mr. Oien has a well-improved farm and has done well in his operations. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the

development of local business affairs at Shelly and owns an interest in the elevator and lumber yard there.

Mr. and Mrs. Oien have six children, Sophia, Hannah, Mattie, Henry, Carl and Gerhart, all of whom are at home. The Oiens are members of the Lutheran church at Shelly and Mr. Oien helped to organize the same. They have a pleasant home and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the village and of the community at large.

FRED GRUHL.

For more than thirty years Fred Gruhl has been a citizen of Clay county, during which period he has seen the country transformed from the wild plains to a fine farming locality, himself a pioneer of Cromwell township, where he has worked his way up from a modest beginning to a position of independence and comfort. He is one of the large landowners and leading farmers of the county.

Mr. Gruhl was born in Germany, October 2, 1849, a son of Fred and Fredericka (Ulich) Gruhl, both natives of Germany, where they lived and died. The father was a common laborer, a hard-working, honest man. He and his wife were members of the Evangelical Lutheran church. To these parents, four children were born, namely: Fredericka, who is living; Paulina, deceased; Herman, who is living; and Fred, the subject of this review.

Fred Gruhl grew to manhood in Germany and there attended school. He immigrated to America in 1884 and located in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where he spent one year, then went to Bismark, North Dakota, for a short time; later moving to Fargo, where he worked until 1885, when he came to Clay county and began farming south of Hawley on rented ground in Cromwell township, remaining there seven years. In 1892 he bought four hundred and eighty acres in section 20 of Cromwell township and here he has remained ever since. When he took possession of the place only a few old shacks stood on it and only a small part of the land had been broken. Mr. Gruhl worked hard, persevered and managed well and he soon had a fine farm under cultivation and in a high state of improvement, putting up a commodious residence and substantial outbuildings, including an elevator. He set out a large grove which is now a valuable asset to his place. He has prospered with the advancing years and now owns a total of over twelve hundred acres of valuable land in one body in



MR. AND MRS. FRED GUTH.

Cromwell township, and fifteen hundred and twenty acres in all. He farms on an extensive scale, keeping a large number of employes. He raises great quantities of grain and potatoes and large herds of live stock. At times he plants two hundred acres in potatoes, being in the famous potato belt, his land being well adapted to their cultivation. He keeps thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle, bringing them in in carload lots for his farm. For many years his fine cattle have been readily bought at fancy prices whenever they were offered for sale. He owns the large modern potato warehouse and the elevator at Muskoda, in Clay county.

On October 25, 1874, Mr. Gruhl was married to Augusta Schmidt, who was born in Germany, where she grew to womanhood, attended school and was married. She is a daughter of Robert Schmidt, who lived and died in Germany. To this union four children have been born, namely: Fred, who married Edith Burrson and died on October 25, 1915, without issue; Richard, who married Emma Horner and is living on the home farm, which he manages; Lena, wife of James Lewis, of Dilworth, and Anna.

Politically, Mr. Gruhl is a Democrat. He was at one time township supervisor and treasurer of the school district in which he lives. He is a member of the Lutheran church and helped organize the first church in his locality, and has always been a liberal supporter of the same. He has forged his way to the front over obstacles and he is known as a useful, helpful and honorable citizen.

MARTIN STROMSTAD.

Martin Stromstad, one of the early settlers of Norman county and a retired farmer, now living with his son Theovald on the old home place in Shelly township, was born in Norway in December, 1836, a son of Tonger and Inger (Stromstad) Stromstad, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they married and reared their family of eleven children. The mother was one of a family of sixteen children, and both she and the father lived in Norway all their lives.

Martin Stromstad received his education in the land of his nativity and there lived until he reached the age of forty-three years. As his father was a farmer, Mr. Stromstad during his boyhood and early maturity found ample room to expend his energy and to contribute his efforts to the cultivation of his father's holding. When he had reached the age of twenty-eight he

decided to establish a home of his own and in 1864 he was married. About fifteen years after his marriage, he concluded that the New World held for him greater opportunities than did the land of his birth, and in 1879 he and his family immigrated to America and settled in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where they remained during the winter of 1879-80. In the spring of 1880 he came to Minnesota and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land in section 4, Shelly township, Norman county, where he has since lived. Immediately he began the hard task of bringing his holding up to a state of cultivation and eventually his industry was rewarded by the bountiful crops which he wrested from the stubborn prairie land. He improved his holding by planting a grove and raising excellent and substantial buildings and now the homestead is one of the best improved of the community.

While Mr. Stromstad was still living in Norway, in 1864, he married Ingeborg Tollefson, a daughter of Tollef Tollefson, who, as well as his wife, lived his whole life in Norway, both dying when their daughter Ingeborg was quite young. Mr. and Mrs. Stromstad are the parents of seven children, namely: Thorvald, Christina, Marie, Inger, Theodore, Anna and Amanda. It was in 1905 that the mother died on the old home place in Shelly township. She was a devout member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, as is Mr. Stromstad, and the latter helped to organize the Zion church of that denomination.

Thorvald Stromstad, the oldest child of Martin Stromstad, was born in Norway, April 21, 1865. He received the greater part of his early education in the land of his nativity, for he was about fourteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to America and with them settled on the farm in Norman county. There he had the common experiences of a pioneer boy, receiving a valuable preparatory training which has proved invaluable to him since he has farmed on his own account. He had just reached the age of twenty-one when he started out for himself in 1886, and in that year took a tree claim in section 4, Shelly township; later, however, he proved up his holding as a homestead. There he remained for fourteen years, at the end of which time he sold his farm and moved to Hubbard township, Polk county, this state, where he rented land for five years. At the end of that period he returned to Norman county, buying the old homestead from his father and has since lived there.

In 1889 Thorvald Stromstad was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Oskelson, who also was born in Norway, a daughter of Oskel Oskelson, who came to this country with his family. To Mr. and Mrs. Stromstad have been

born fourteen children, two of whom died unnamed, the others being Ingeborg, Marie, Selma, Martina, Abigal, Alfred (who died at the age of eleven years), Martin, Tillie, Edwin, Severt, Christian and Anton. Mr. and Mrs. Stromstad have always been members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they have a deep and abiding interest. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Stromstad helped to organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Shelly, since he felt that adequate marketing facilities for agricultural products are absolutely necessary to the well-being of this community. Mr. Stromstad takes a proper interest in local civic affairs, but has never sought after public office.

HALVOR ANDERSON.

Among the sturdy pioneers who brought about the development of Norman county few are better known or have been more active in that development work than Halvor Anderson, one of the most substantial land-owners of the Perley neighborhood and one of the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of that part of the county. In addition to his large land holdings Mr. Anderson is a member of the board of directors of the First State Bank of Perley, a member of the board of directors of the Farmers Elevator Company at that place, for many years has been connected with the public service in his home township and has been one of the leaders in all worthy enterprises affecting the development and prosperity of that section of the county, as well as of the county at large.

Halvor Anderson is a native son of Minnesota, born in Houston county on June 5, 1853, son of John and Carrie (Snugro) Anderson, early residents of Winneshiek county, Iowa. John Anderson was one of the real pioneers of Minnesota and later of Iowa, having moved to that state when our subject was one year of age, and was thus among the early arrivals of that plucky band of Scandinavian settlers which made possible the speedy development of the great Northwest country. He grew to manhood in his native Norway and was there married. In 1850 he came to the United States and located in Rock county, Wisconsin. There his first wife died. In 1852 he married Carrie Snugro and in the next year proceeded on out to the then Territory of Minnesota and settled near the southern border, in Houston county. By the first marriage was born one child, a daughter, Olenka, now deceased, who was the wife of B. O. Lee, of the state of Washington. John Anderson, as stated, later married Carrie Snugro, who died ten years ago at

the age of eighty-four years. To that union five children were born, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Mary, Anna, Albert and Paulina; of these latter Paulina being now the only survivor. John Anderson died in 1879, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, he then being fifty-seven years of age.

Reared on a pioneer farm, Halvor Anderson received his schooling in the public schools of Winneshiek county, over the line in Iowa, and early became a practical farmer. In 1874 he married and in the summer of 1878 came up into the Red River country and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and thirty-seven acres in section 30 of what later came to be organized as Mary township, Norman county, arriving here on June 13, of that year. At the same time he entered a tree claim to an adjoining quarter section and in due time "proved up" both his homestead and his tree claim. Upon his arrival here Mr. Anderson erected a log cabin on his homestead tract and there established his home, living in that cabin, which is still standing, for six years. He then bought the half section on which he is now living in section 29 and moved onto the same, erecting there more comfortable buildings, and has ever since made that his place of residence. As he prospered in his early farming operations, Mr. Anderson bought more land and is now the owner of one thousand three hundred and seventy-two acres of land in the vicinity of his home, besides a valuable farm in North Dakota. His home place is improved in admirable shape and the dwelling house has been added to and remodeled until it is one of the most commodious and comfortable in that section, the house having a steam-heating plant and all the modern conveniences of an up-to-date home. The farm buildings are in keeping with the house and Mr. Anderson's farm plant is regarded as one of the best in that part of Norman county. He has for years given his chief attention to wheat farming and has done well. In public affairs Mr. Anderson has ever taken a warm and active interest. For twenty-six years he was a member of the town board, from the time the town was organized, has been treasurer of his home township and since 1884 has also been the treasurer of his local school board. In the general business affairs of the community he also has for years been regarded as one of the leaders, is a director of the First State Bank of Perley, a director of the Farmers Elevator Company of that place and in other ways has done his part in developing the business interests of the community in which he has lived since pioneer days.

On May 18, 1874, at Bicknow, Iowa, Halvor Anderson was united in marriage to Christe Melbostad, who was born in Winneshiek county, that

state, February 21, 1854, and to this union fourteen children have been born, namely: John, who is married and is the owner of a farm east of his father's place; Anna, deceased; Caroline, deceased; Gustav and Christina (twins), the former of whom is married and lives on a farm in the vicinity of Ada and the latter of whom is deceased; Henry, who is married and lives on a farm in Lee township; Mary, wife of Lars Olson, now living in Montana; Tilda, deceased; Clara, who is living at St. Paul; Martin, who is married and who lives at Perley, where he is the proprietor of a garage; Oscar, who is married and is farming that part of his father's place north of the home place; Joseph, who is married and lives in North Dakota; William, who remains on the home place, and Emma, also at home. The Andersons are members of the Betania Lutheran church and have ever taken a proper part in the various beneficences of the same, Mr. Anderson being one of the trustees of the church. They have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the community's general social activities and good works, helpful in many ways in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common good thereabout. Mrs. Anderson is a daughter of Gilbert and Anna (Dahl) Melbostad, natives of Norway, who came to America on the same ship with the Anderson family and located in Wisconsin, where they were married, and lived there until 1853, when they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa. Both are now deceased.

JORIS C. NORBY.

The history of Norman county in the making would be incomplete without fitting mention of the late Joris C. Norby, former clerk of the district court, former county auditor, and one time editor and owner of the *Norman County Herald*, a substantial landowner, mill man and lumberman, who died at his home in the city of Ada, in December, 1902. Enterprise, honesty and the conscientious discharge of public duties placed him at the highest station among the citizens and business men of Ada and at the time of his death he was in the enjoyment of the ample rewards of a well-spent life.

Mr. Norby was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born on a farm in Trondjhem, October 22, 1857. His father, Joris Norby, who was a merchant and farmer in his native land, came to America with his family in 1871 and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Joris C. Norby was the tenth child and the youngest son in a family of twelve children. He was given a liberal

education in his native land, supplemental by attendance at the schools of Fillmore county and Decorah, Iowa. In 1878, when twenty-one years old, he came into the Red River country and located in Norman county, where he taught school and also worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, until 1883. He filed on a tract of government land, as a permanent place of residence. In 1882 Mr. Norby was elected clerk of the district court. He was re-elected in 1886, but owing to impaired health did not serve out his second term, resigning in January, 1889. Acting upon the advice of his physician, Mr. Norby made a trip to Europe and upon his return to Minnesota engaged in farming a few years. In January, 1892, he purchased the *Norman County Herald*, published at Ada, and continued its publication until he disposed of his interests in August, 1900. This paper was established by O. H. Phillips, as a Democratic paper, in 1888, and in the following year was purchased by a local stock company, which converted its columns to the Prohibition cause and were so conducting it when Mr. Norby became the owner. He transformed the paper into an organ of the Populist party and it became the recognized organ of that party in Norman county. In 1892, the year in which he purchased the *Herald*, Mr. Norby was elected county auditor and his popularity throughout the county and the faithful manner in which he discharged his official duties in that capacity are attested by the fact that he was re-elected to that office in 1894, and thus served two terms as auditor. In 1895 he became interested in the lumber business, in partnership with C. C. Allen, and held his interest in that business at the time of his death. He also built a flouring-mill at Halstad, retaining a half interest in the business. In addition to his interest in these industries, Mr. Norby owned and operated five hundred and twenty acres of valuable land and also helped organize and was secretary of the Norman County Telephone Company and was otherwise interested in the industrial and commercial life of the community of which he had been an active factor since pioneer days. Upon the decline of the Populist party Mr. Norby put in his lot with that of the Republicans and for some time served as a member of the Republican county central committee. For thirty years or more he had been an active member of the Odd Fellows fraternity. When called upon to serve his fellow man in various offices of trust he proved his ability and faithfulness and to the end enjoyed the confidence and the esteem of those among whom he had chosen to make his home.

In 1889 Joris C. Norby was united in marriage to Valborg Schriver, a native of the kingdom of Norway, who was born in the city of Christiania, coming to this country in 1888. To that union, four sons were born, all born

in the city of Ada. In 1906 Mrs. Norby married Dr. Walter B. Holmes, of Ada, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Joris C. Norby, Jr., late of St. Johns Military School, is now an acting corporal in the United States Marine Corps stationed at Mare Island, California, having enlisted at the first call for recruits after the declaration of war. Of his brothers—the firm of Norby Brothers, of Great Falls, Montana—Erling Norby stands subject to the second call to arms. Frithjof Norby stands subject to the third call. Offsprings of a worthy sire, they go without fear or trembling, to the end that liberty and the rights of man may not perish from the earth.

W. C. LEE.

W. C. Lee, register of deeds for Norman county and the proprietor of the *Twin Valley Times* at Twin Valley, is a native of the neighboring state of Iowa, but has lived in Minnesota, a resident of Norman county, since the days of his infancy, his parents having settled here in pioneer days. He was born at Decorah, Iowa, November 22, 1881, son of K. G. and Susan (Bursham) Lee, both of whom also were born at Decorah and the former of whom was a son of G. K. Lee and wife, natives of Norway, who came to this country and were among the early residents of Decorah.

K. G. Lee grew to manhood at Decorah, married there and engaged there in the general mercantile business, remaining thus engaged until in March, 1882, when he disposed of his interests at that place and came up into Minnesota, putting in his lot with the early settlers of the new county-seat town, Ada, where he spent the remainder of his life, one of the useful and influential citizens of that city, his death occurring in 1905. K. G. Lee was an ardent Republican and early became one of the leaders of that party in Norman county. For six years he served as sheriff of the county and there were few men in this part of the state who had a wider acquaintance than he during the days of his activity. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being as follow: May, who married A. J. Johnson; George, of Idaho; Alice, wife of Rev. H. Schliesser; Emma, wife of P. Simonson; Raymond, of Twin Valley, and Kenneth, of Twin Valley. A daughter, Kyle, died when only six months old.

As noted above, W. C. Lee was but an infant when his parents moved up here from Iowa in 1882 and he grew to manhood at Ada, receiving his schooling in the schools of that city. When fifteen years of age he began learning the printing trade in the office of the *Ada Index* and remained with that paper for twelve years, becoming thoroughly familiar with all details of the newspaper business. He then, in June, 1909, bought the *Twin Valley Times* at Twin Valley, a flourishing village over in the eastern part of the county, and was conducting that sprightly newspaper in 1912, when he was elected register of deeds for Norman county and returned to Ada, the county seat, where he since has made his home, continuing, however, to retain his ownership of the *Twin Valley Times*. So satisfactory did Mr. Lee's services as register of deeds prove that he was re-elected to that office and is now serving his second term. Mr. Lee is an earnest Republican and has ever taken an active interest in local political affairs. During the years 1907-08 he served as assessor of the city of Ada.

In May, 1905, W. C. Lee was united in marriage to Florence Andrist, daughter of Fred Andrist, of Gildford, Montana, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Anna.

MADS LARSON.

Mads Larson, a well-known landowner and early settler of Hendrum township, was born in Norway, June 4, 1854, the son of Lars and Anna (Noe) Nilson, both natives of Norway, where they remained their whole lives, the former being a school teacher and landowner. They were the parents of seven children, Nels, Jacob, Johan (deceased), Anna (deceased), Peter, Hansena and Mads.

Mads Larson, who spent his boyhood and early manhood in the land of his nativity, decided, in 1876, that his opportunity lay in the New World across the Atlantic, and in that year came to America, locating for two years in Winneshiek county, Iowa. Seeking to better himself, he decided to come northward into Minnesota. Driving a team of horses hitched to a covered wagon, he attached himself to a party of two hundred settlers, and they all started from Ossian, Winneshiek county, Iowa, for Norman county, Minnesota. As Mr. Larson and Hans Larson, now a resident of Ada, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work, drove horses and their companions oxen, they soon outstripped the slower moving settlers and arrived at their destination first, the journey taking them about two weeks.



MR. AND MRS. MADS LARSON.

Mads Larson went immediately to Hendrum township and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 34 and there he lived until 1907. During the time of his residence on his homestead, he vastly improved it by planting groves and erecting excellent farm buildings; moreover, the original quarter section soon grew until he became the owner of six hundred and forty acres, practically all in one piece, one-half of which lay in Lee township. In the year mentioned above he sold the old homestead and removed to where he lives at present. Now he has a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres, which he has improved by erecting a comfortable house, excellent barns and other necessary buildings. At this time he carries on general farming and is also engaged in the raising of graded Shorthorn cattle.

In 1880 Mr. Larson married Julia Johanson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Johan Tagness, and to this union the following children were born: Anna, Lars, who died at the age of one year, Matilda, Lars and Gilma. For his second wife Mr. Larson married Julia Olson, who also was a native of Norway, and who died without issue. On March 1, 1914, Mr. Larson married Mrs. Hilda (Redal) Unerlee. Mr. Larson and family are strict, conscientious and consistent adherents to the Lutheran faith, and in the affairs of this denomination they take a deep interest, he having helped to organize the Emanuel Lutheran church. In addition to his activity on his farm, Mr. Larson has helped to organize the farmers elevator, the creamery and the State Bank, all of Hendrum. He is independent in his political views and has never aspired to public office; however, he has always given his heartiest support to any movement which has for its object the betterment of the community.

PAUL VAN VLISSINGEN.

Among the active and influential pioneers of Clay county who have passed from earthly scenes of labor after having done well their work in the development of this part of the Red River valley, few have left a better or more enduring memory than did the late Paul Van Vliissingen, who died at his home in Hitterdal in March, 1911. He was one of the pioneers of 1871, having thus been a resident of Clay county before the days of that county's formal organization as a civic entity. One of the earliest landowners in Goose Prairie township, he from the very beginning

of the days of a social order in that part of the county took an active interest in the affairs of the community and at one time and another served as township clerk, as supervisor and as a member of the school board. He was the organizer of the Security State Bank of Hitterdal and was for years cashier of that institution, and was besides the owner of seven hundred and sixty acres, now owned by his widow, the owner of considerable bank stock and shares in other business enterprises.

Paul Van Vlissingen was a native of the kingdom of Holland, born in the city of Amsterdam in June, 1853, a son of Paul Cornelius and Valberge (Agandens) Van Vlissingen, the former of whom was born in East India and the latter in the city of Christiania, in the kingdom of Norway, who came to Minnesota in 1870 and became pioneers of Clay county, but who later returned to Holland, where their last days were spent. Upon coming to this country in 1870 with his family Paul Cornelius Van Vlissingen proceeded on out to Minnesota and after a short stay in Minneapolis came on over into the Red River valley and bought land in what later came to be organized as Goose Prairie township, Clay county, in the vicinity of Hitterdal. He was one of the organizers of the township and became a member of the township board and of his local school board. About twelve years later he and his wife returned to Holland and there their last days were spent, his death occurring there in 1905, he then being sixty-nine years of age; and hers, in 1912, she then being seventy-eight years of age. They were the parents of four children: Magda, who is married and lives in Switzerland; Marie, who is married and lives in Holland; George, who died at Minneapolis, when sixteen years of age, and Paul, the subject of this memorial sketch.

When he came into the Red River valley with his parents in 1871 Paul Van Vlissingen was eighteen years of age and he at once proceeded to take his part in the development of the new country. He bought a half section of land in the vicinity of the place his father had bought in the Hitterdal neighborhood, and entered upon the strenuous task of developing and improving the same. In 1883 he married and settled down on his farm, and as he prospered there added to his holdings until he became the owner of a fine farm of seven hundred and sixty acres. As noted above, Mr. Van Vlissingen took an active interest in local public affairs and served his home township in various official capacities, being clerk of the township at the time of his death. In addition to his banking interests at Hitterdal, mentioned above, he was a stockholder in the local creamery company and in the local telephone company and was one of the organizers of the latter.

He died in March, 1911, and his widow has since transferred her banking interests to Moorhead, where she now lives and where she owns a very comfortable home and a business building on Front street. She retains ownership of the extensive home farm in Goose Prairie township, renting the same to two tenants who operate it, her son, Paul Cornelius, acting as general overseer of the operations.

It was in February, 1883, at Moorhead, that Paul Van Vlissingen was united in marriage to Elizabeth Smith, who was born in March, 1857, in England, and who came to this country with kinsfolk in 1873. Mrs. Van Vlissingen's father was for years superintendent of police in his home city in England and lived to be eighty years of age, his death occurring about twenty-five years ago. His widow survived him for ten years and was eighty-three years of age at the time of her death. Both were born in England and spent all their lives there. Mrs. Van Vlissingen has two brothers and a sister still living in England, none of the other members of immediate family having come to this country. To Paul and Elizabeth (Smith) Van Vlissingen three children were born, namely: Paul Cornelius, the owner of a farm of one hundred and seventy acres in Oakport township and the overseer of his mother's large estate; George F., deceased, and Henry, deceased. Paul C. Van Vlissingen was united in marriage at Hitterdal in 1902 to Clara Anderson and has four children, Elizabeth, George, Ernest and Violet. He has a very pleasant home on his farm in Oakport township and he and his wife take an interested part in the general social activities of their home community.

MARGARET E. G. RICHARDS.

Margaret E. G. Richards, of Moorhead, Minnesota, is a member of a well-known and respected family, who have been residents of Clay county since 1882. She was born in Calumet, Michigan, in 1879 and accompanied her parents to this part of the state of Minnesota at the age of three years. She is the daughter of Robert and Ellen (Giffin) Richards, the latter of whom was born in Belfast, Ireland, in 1844 and died in 1913.

Robert Richards was born in Cornwall, England, in 1844 and died in 1912. He came to America in 1864 and proceeded to Calumet, Michigan, in which place he worked in the copper mines. In 1882 he moved to Clay county, this state, and in Kragnes township embarked in general farming

and stock raising up to the time of his death. To Robert Richards and wife seven children were born, of whom Margaret is the fourth in order of birth. Further and extended reference is made in another part of this volume to Robert Richards and other members of his family and to these sketches the attention of the reader is invited.

Margaret E. G. Richards was educated in the schools of this county and remained at home for some years helping in the domestic routine of the family home. At the death of her father she inherited one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 9, Kragnes township, which land is rented from her by her brother, Tom. She inherited this land about four years ago. Three years ago she became the owner of a splendid corner lot and house in Moorhead and has given ample evidence of her capacity to conduct business with profit and advantage. She now and for some time past has been conducting a rooming house, to the management of which she has brought keen business judgment.

Miss Richards is an earnest member of the Congregational church and warmly interested in all its good works. She takes a proper part in the social and cultural activities of the neighborhood in which she resides, ever desirous to assist in matters calculated to elevate community conditions.

JULIUS T. LUNDER

"Through struggle to triumph" seems to be the maxim which holds sway with the majority of the Scandinavians who come to Minnesota; that is, those who attain to a successful goal at all, find it after arduous effort. But this class of men enjoy their success after it does come much more than the man who has inherited a competency or gained it with but little or no effort.

One of the farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, who has won a definite degree of success after a strenuous effort is Julius T. Lunder. He was born in Norway, March 2, 1874. He is a son of Thorsten Nelson and Dortha (Granavold) Lunder, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, where they married and made their home until the spring of 1877, when they immigrated to America, coming directly to Minnesota, where the father took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Highland Grove township, Clay county, which is the place on which his son, Julius T. Lunder, now resides. He was one of the pioneers here

and he developed the place from a wild prairie to an excellent farm, planted a large grove of fine trees, erected a comfortable dwelling and numerous outbuildings, fences, etc., and here he engaged in general farming and stock raising with very gratifying results until his death, which occurred in the year 1907.

Nine children were born to Thorsten N. Lunder and wife, named as follow: Nels, the eldest; Rande, deceased; Iver, living; Olavus, deceased; Nickolie, living; Segred, deceased; Thorvald and Dorthea, living, and Julius T., the subject of this sketch.

Julius T. Lunder was three years old when his parents brought him from Norway to Clay county and he grew up on the home farm in Highland Grove township, where he has lived ever since. He received his education in the district schools of his vicinity. He has kept the old farm well improved and under a fine state of cultivation and has carried on diversified farming with success. He has kept the buildings well repaired and erected a new barn, thirty-four by seventy feet.

In July, 1905, Mr. Lunder was married to Hilda Carlson, who was born near Lake Park, Becker county, Minnesota. She grew to womanhood on the home farm and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Carl G. and Sanne (Ebeltoft) Carlson, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Lunder, namely: Vivian Gladys, Roy, Howard Joseph and Esther Inez. Politically, Mr. Lunder is a Democrat.

OLE LARSON.

Ole Larson, farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, was born in Scott county, Minnesota, April 16, 1867. He is a son of Andrew and Mary (Engen) Larson, both natives of Norway, from which country they immigrated to America, single, in 1850, making the voyage on the same boat, landing at Quebec, Canada, where they were married. After spending three years in that city, they removed to Chicago, Illinois, and lived there eight years; then went to Muskego, Waukesha county, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1862, when they came to Scott county, Minnesota. Mr. Larson had worked as a laborer all these years, but by living economically he had saved enough to buy land, which he developed and farmed, being one of the pioneer settlers in Scott county. Remaining there until the spring

of 1879, he moved to Clay county, making the trip with team and wagon. He secured one hundred and sixty acres in Humboldt township, which he made into an excellent farm, where he still resides. He set out a large grove and put up a residence and numerous other buildings. His wife died in Scott county. Andrew Larson has always been a public-spirited man and helpful in his community. He helped organize the first church in his locality in Humboldt township, the Lutheran church, and he helped organize the township. While living at Muskego, Wisconsin, he also helped organize the first church there. He worked on the construction of the first railroad which was built west from Chicago. He moved from that city on account of an outbreak of cholera, walking to Muskego, a distance of six hundred miles, later sending back for his family. He worked as a farm hand there until he came to Scott county, Minnesota, making the long journey with his family and household effects in an old-fashioned covered wagon, the trip requiring six weeks. His family consisted of nine children. Six of these died in Scott county. Lars died in Clay county. Ole, the subject of this sketch, and Jose are the only ones now living, the latter keeping house for her father and brother, the three having remained together.

Ole Larson attended the early district schools of Clay county. He has worked hard all his life, assisting his father, who is a typical pioneer, with the general work of developing farms in a new country. The son has added one hundred and twenty acres to the homestead and also owns some woodland. He raises grain, potatoes and live stock, specializing in graded Shorthorn cattle. He has kept the place under an excellent state of improvement and cultivation. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company at Barnesville and is still a heavy stockholder in the same. He was its first president, is now vice-president, and has done much to make the undertaking eminently successful. He is also a stockholder and director in the Park Mutual Fire Insurance Company, with which he has been connected since 1910 and in which he has carried insurance for twenty-five years.

Mr. Larson was married in 1897 to Caroline Blegen, a native of Norway and a daughter of Peter and Bertha (Tingelstad) Blegen, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home; but brought their family to America many years ago, locating among the early pioneers of Humboldt township, Clay county, Minnesota, where they became very comfortably established through their industry, buying railroad land in section 13. After living there a number of years they moved to Beltrami county, this state, where they still live. Six children, all surviving, were

born to Mr. and Mrs. Blegen, namely: Caroline, Nettie, Gilbert, Vent, Peter and Henry.

The following children have been born to Ole Larson and wife: Arthur, Peter, Ida Louisa (deceased), Lars (deceased), Clara, Anna and Sever. Politically, Mr. Larson is independent. He has held all the offices in Humboldt township, being assessor five or six years, and chairman of the board of trustees ten years. He is an active member of the Grong Lutheran church of which he has been a trustee for many years. He has always taken an interest in local public affairs and is a well-known and highly respected citizen of Humboldt township.

HANS O. LEE.

Hans O. Lee, a substantial landowner and progressive farmer, of Lee township, Norman county, which township was named in honor of his father, was born in the kingdom of Norway on April 22, 1863, and was not yet six years of age when his parents, Ole J. Lee and wife, came to this country, the family presently locating at Fargo. He was eight years of age when the family located at Fargo and he grew to manhood there, receiving his schooling in the schools of that city and in the college at Northfield. In 1871 Ole J. Lee pre-empted a claim one mile south of the Northern Pacific track, where a part of the city of Fargo now stands, the city waterworks plant being now located there, and remained there until 1878, in which year he came up into what then was a part of Polk county (now Norman) and settled in the township which now bears his name and which he helped to organize. In 1884 he returned to his native Norway, bought a farm there and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring about 1905. His wife, also a native of Norway, was Anna Johanna Aklestrom before her marriage. They were the parents of eight children, five of whom are still living, all citizens of the United States.

When twenty-one years of age Hans O. Lee bought a tract of eighty acres of land in section 26 of Lee township, Norman county, and after his marriage in 1890 established his home in that township and has ever since resided there, long having been regarded as one of the most substantial and influential residents of that section of the county. A year after his investment in Lee township he bought a quarter of a section in section 22 and in the fall of 1892 moved onto this latter place; later trading that quarter section for two hundred acres in section 34, where he since has made

his home. From time to time Mr. Lee has added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of six hundred and forty acres in sections 34 and 35 and has one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done well in his operations. For some time Mr. Lee was treasurer of the local school board and also served for some time as overseer of highways in his district. He helped to organize the local creamery and the local elevator and in other ways has contributed of his time and his energies to the advancement of the material interests of the community in which he lives, at the same time actively concerned with the work of building up the interests of the local churches and schools.

On March 1, 1890, at Perley, Hans O. Lee was united in marriage to Anna Larson, who was born on February 26, 1871, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Laura, wife of Selmer Gaare, who lives on a farm a mile and a half north of the Lee place; Olga, who is at home; John, who is married and lives on a farm a half mile south of the home place, and Arthur, Helmer and Edward, at home. The Lees are earnest members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take a warm and active interest, Mr. Lee being a member of the board of deacons of that church and superintendent of the Sunday school.

BENNIE J. GUNDERSON

Bennie J. Gunderson, a prosperous and progressive young farmer, owner of two hundred and seventy-eight acres of choice land in Moland township, Clay county, was born on a farm in section 20 of that township, January 18, 1886. He is a son of Gunder B. and Anna Gunderson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former of whom was born in 1854 and the latter in 1865.

Gunder B. Gunderson came to the United States in 1861 in company with his father, Benedik Gunderson, who homesteaded one hundred and eighty acres of land in section 28, Moland township, Clay county, in 1871. On this tract Benedik Gunderson farmed for the remainder of his life and died in March, 1911. Gunder B. Gunderson subsequently acquired land in section 20, Moland township, and in 1892 moved to a farm in section 19, where he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1908. His wife, Anna Gunderson, also a native of Norway, came to



BENNIE J. GUNDERSON.



BARN ON GUNDERSON FARM.

America in 1882 and they were married in 1884 and settled on the farm in section 20. Mrs. Gunderson is still living. Gunder B. Gunderson and wife were the parents of the following children: Bennie J., the subject of this sketch; Allen D., Agnes G., George C., Andrew H., William E., Henry J., Dora J. and Mabel E., all of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Gunderson were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and always took a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the district in which they lived, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the community.

Bennie J. Gunderson was educated in the public schools of Moland township and was reared on his father's farm. From boyhood he was an able assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place. Mr. Gunderson sold, in the spring of 1917, the old homestead place, which his grandfather had entered in 1871, to Torgus Langley. Mr. Gunderson is now the owner of two hundred and seventy-eight acres of prime land, about sixty-five acres of which is given over to the cultivation of potatoes, and he is doing very well in his farming operations. The value of the machinery on the farm is about two thousand dollars.

In 1913, Bennie J. Gunderson was united in marriage to Lenora Filland, who was born March 26, 1885, in Oakport, Minnesota. To that union was born one child, a daughter, Lenora Carolina. Mrs. Gunderson died in 1914. She was a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Concordia, as is Mr. Gunderson, and in which he served as trustee and was treasurer to the congregation for six years. Mr. Gunderson takes a good citizen's interest in the public affairs of his township and district and has served as town clerk for the past six years, and in many other ways has shown an active desire to further the civic affairs of the community.

B. M. OIEN.

One of the substantial and prosperous pioneer farmers of Shelly township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor of two hundred acres of fertile and well-improved farming land, is B. M. Oien, who is a native of Norway, born on January 10, 1852, a son of P. A. and Gertrude Oien, both of whom were natives of Norway, and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work.

Born and reared in the kingdom of Norway, where he received his early education, B. M. Oien accompanied his parents to America in 1869 when he was seventeen years of age, an energetic young man in a new and bustling country. He did not directly come to Norman county, Minnesota, where he has lived for forty-three years, but moved from place to place, all the while keeping his face toward the west where lay the opportunity to acquire a substantial holding of fertile land. In 1874, when he had reached the age of twenty-two years, Mr. Oien decided to come to the newly opened Red River country, and to reach this section, he had to take a roundabout route, going by train from Minneapolis to Duluth and thence by train to Moorhead. Upon his arrival in these parts he did not immediately take a homestead, but worked on farms in Norman (then Polk) county, until he decided upon a tract of land to homestead. It was in 1876 that he took a piece of land in this way, a quarter-section in Shelly township, a portion of the vast expanse of the prairie, on which he has continued to make his home. When he first took his homestead, the land was all wild and raw, and the task of putting it under cultivation was no easy one, but, nothing daunted by the extent of his difficulties, he planted a grove and erected the rude temporary buildings which were so characteristic of the homesteader's claim. Later, he replaced these buildings by larger, more substantial and comfortable ones, and now has one of the best equipped and most highly improved farms in his neighborhood. Since he has been very successful in his agricultural pursuits, Mr. Oien has been enabled to extend his holdings by purchasing a tract of forty acres of railroad land just across the road from his homestead. He now carries on, with the help of his children, a general type of diversified farming and raises graded Shorthorn cattle.

In June, 1879, just three years after he located on his homestead, Mr. Oien was united in marriage to Paulina M. Nelson, a native of Norway, born on January 7, 1859, a daughter of Alexander and Thale Nelson, the former of whom brought his family to America and settled in Norman county in 1879. To this union three children were born, all of whom are at home: Julia P., John and Marie. The death of Mrs. Oien occurred on July 17, 1916, at Bethesda Hospital, Crookston, Minnesota. She was a consistent and conscientious member of the Norwegian Lutheran church as is Mr. Oien, and in the faith of this denomination they reared their children.

In politics, Mr. Oien has part of the time been a Republican and is a strong advocate of the principles and policies which he thinks are right and according to his oath of allegiance. He has frequently been called to serve his community in official capacity, having been for two or

three years township clerk; from 1880 to 1882 township assessor, and for some time a school officer. In addition to his activity in the local official life of the community, Mr. Oien has been interested in one of the co-operative marketing concerns of Shelly, the Farmers Elevator Company, which he helped to organize, and in other ways has done well his part in the general affairs of the community whose development he has aided in all good ways ever since his arrival here back in the days of the pioneers.

MARTIN O. SOLUM.

Martin O. Solum, farmer, of Tansem township, Clay county, was born on the home place, the farm he now lives on, July 8, 1874. He has been contented to spend his life in his native community, never desiring to seek uncertain fortune in other and distant fields of endeavor. He is a son of Ole H. and Kari (Stadum) Solum, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married, later immigrating to the United States and locating among the pioneers of Tansem township, Clay county, Minnesota, where they developed a good farm through hard work and perseverance. A complete sketch of these parents will be found on another page of this volume, to which the reader is respectfully referred.

Martin O. Solum grew to manhood on the home farm and assisted his father with the general work on the same; attending the district schools in the winter time, and later studied at Park Region College at Fergus Falls. With the exception of working in a store in Barnesville a few years he has always lived on the home farm in Tansem township. He has operated it entirely on his own account for the past sixteen years and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He owns two hundred acres of well-improved, productive and well-cultivated land. He raises much grain, the major portion of which he feeds to live stock. He makes a specialty of raising full-blooded Shorthorn cattle, which, owing to their superior quality, always find a very ready market. He has a good home and numerous substantial outbuildings. He helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Barnesville, of which he is a stockholder, and he has been treasurer of the company since its organization.

Mr. Solum was married in 1901 to Sanna Solum, who was born in Tansem township, this county, where she grew to womanhood and attended school. She is a daughter of P. P. and Bergetta Solum, who came to Clay

county in pioneer days and took up a homestead, which they developed into a good farm. Mr. and Mrs. Solum have no children of their own, but have adopted two children, Jorgen and Gena. Politically, Mr. Solum is a Republican. He has been active in public affairs for many years and is now serving his fifth year as county commissioner. He is also treasurer of his township, which position he has held for twelve years. As a public servant he has discharged his duties in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

MARTIN L. MIKKELSON

Martin L. Mikkelson, a farmer of Eglon township, Clay county, was born in 1864 in Norway. He is a son of Lars and Beret Sophia Mikkelson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, immigrating to America in 1870. The mother died on September 18, 1899, at the age of sixty-seven years. The father brought his family to Minnesota in 1871, taking up a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of railroad land in section 22, Eglon township, Clay county, the place now occupied by his son, Martin L. Here the father worked hard and persevered and established a comfortable home and he is still living on the place, being now (1917) in his eighty-eighth year. He has lived to see many changes in Clay county during his residence here of forty-seven years and is one of our honored and venerable pioneers. He has not been actively engaged in farming for the past fifteen or twenty years. Some time after buying his original tract he bought other land—forty acres in section 23 of Eglon township, and eighty acres in sections 15 and 29 of the same township, but sold the "forty" five years later. He has held many local offices and has been a good and helpful citizen. To Lars Mikkelson and wife ten children were born, namely: Engbore, who is a widow and lives in the state of Washington; Mekel, who is married and lives on a farm near Hitterdal; Lars, who died in the fall of 1916, after a life on the home farm; Berret, who is married and lives in Canada; Martin L., the subject of this sketch; Sophia, who lives at home; Nels, who is married and is farming in Eglon township; Louisa, deceased; Josephine, also deceased, and Mathilda, who is married and lives in Staples, Minnesota.

Martin L. Mikkelson was six years of age when his parents brought him to America and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Eglon town-

ship, receiving his education in the district schools. In 1904 he and his brother Lars bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, Eglon township, and in 1906 they purchased the homestead of two hundred acres. Upon the death of Lars, Martin L. became sole owner of the entire three hundred and sixty acres and is operating the same in a highly successful manner, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He sows a large acreage to wheat each year. His land is in the rich potato belt and he has planted as high as fifteen acres in the tubers. He raises large numbers of cattle and hogs for the market each year, specializing in Shorthorn cattle of an excellent grade, the head of his herd being a fine registered animal. The father made the first improvement on the place, but these have given away to more modern improvements made by Martin L. and Lars Mikkelson, including new buildings, fences, etc. The first home on the land was of logs and was built by the father in the early frontier days. A part of this primitive residence is still standing, a priceless relic of pioneer days.

In 1906, in Eglon township, Martin L. Mikkelson was married to Bertha Erickson, who was born in 1881 in that same township, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. Three children have been born to this marriage, namely: Myrtle, Ludvig and Milton.

Mr. Mikkelson is a Republican and was a member of the town board for six years. He was once president of the Young People's Association, is treasurer of the school board in district No. 15 and is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, of which he is treasurer.

MICHAEL HIGGINS.

Michael Higgins, a substantial farmer of Clay county and the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres in section 31 of Kragnes township, is a native of the old Buckeye state, but has been a resident of this section of the Red River valley since he was eighteen years of age, having come over here from Wisconsin in 1878. He was born at Johnstown, Ohio, in 1860, a son of Michael and Anna (Hannay) Higgins, who were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Mary, wife of Con Keefe, a member of the Fargo police force; Maggie, who is married and lives in Wisconsin; Martin; Patrick, deceased, and Thomas, who is married and lives in Minneapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Keefe have a daughter, Mrs. Anna McQuat, who lives in Winnipeg. Mr. Keefe, who has been a member of the Fargo police force for the past twelve years, has resided in that city since 1881. His parents died at Detroit, Minnesota. He was reared at Hastings, this state, and there received his schooling, later becoming engaged in railroad service, and was married to Mary Higgins at Fargo in 1884. Mrs. Keefe received her schooling near Ontario, Wisconsin. Mr. Keefe has four brothers and five sisters. He is the owner of a fine bit of residence property in Fargo and is one of the best-known men in that city. He is a member of the local council of the Knights of Columbus, of the local aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles and of the local branch of the Switchmens Union of North America.

The elder Michael Higgins was born in Ireland and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Con Keefe, at Fargo, in August, 1909, he then being eighty-four years of age. His wife had preceded him to the grave about four years, her death having occurred in Wisconsin when she was sixty-five years of age. The elder Michael Higgins was twenty years of age when he came to this country from Ireland and for a time after his arrival here he worked on railroads in Pennsylvania and Ohio. He then moved to Johnstown, Ohio, and then to Steubenville, Ohio, and after some years of residence there moved to Wisconsin, where he homesteaded a farm in the vicinity of Ontario and there spent the rest of the active days of his life. After the death of his wife he sold his farm and thereafter, until his death, made his home with his daughter, Maggie, and his daughter, Mrs. Keefe, at Fargo.

The younger Michael Higgins was but a child when his parents moved from Ohio to Wisconsin and he grew up on the homestead farm in the latter state, receiving his schooling in the school in the neighborhood of his home, in the vicinity of Ontario, in Vernon county. When eighteen years of age, in 1878, he came over into the Red River valley and located at Moorhead, where for eighteen years thereafter he was engaged in the employ of Lamb Brothers. He then bought a quarter of a section in section 31 of Kragnes township and on that farm established his home. He later bought an adjoining "forty" and now has a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of two hundred acres and a comfortable home, where he and his family are very pleasantly situated. During the summer of 1917, Mr. Higgins had out twenty-five acres of potatoes on his place, in addition to the customary crops. He has a good stand of live stock and is doing well in his farming operations.

During the time of his residence in Moorhead Michael Higgins was united in marriage to Agnes Peterson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway in 1862 and who came to America when twenty-five years of age and who was married the year after her arrival here. To that union seven children have been born, Alice, Myrtle, Francis, Mabel, Edna, Howard and Alta, all of whom are at home. The Higginses are members of the Catholic church and take a proper interest in parish affairs. Mr. Higgins gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and is a director on the school board in district No. 78.

AUGUST JULIUS LUEDKE.

August Julius Luedke, one of Norman county's pioneer farmers and landowners, now living retired at Ada, the county seat, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1882, in which year he came with his bride and established his home on a homestead farm in Wild Rice township, Norman county, later settling on a farm which he bought in section 36 of Lockhart township, where he lived until his retirement and removal to Ada. He was born on July 16, 1856, a son of Gottlieb and Christina Luedke, who were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Wilhelmina, Martin, Paulina and Othelia, the first two of whom are still living in Germany and the two latter of whom are married and living in Minnesota. The mother of these children died in her native land and the father afterward came to this country and here spent his last days.

Reared in Germany, August J. Luedke received his schooling there and remained there until after his marriage. He was married on June 7, 1879 to Pauline Andree and straightway he and his bride took their departure for America. They proceeded on out into Minnesota and in 1882, settled on a homestead farm in Wild Rice township, Norman county. Later Mr. Luedke bought a farm in section 36 of Lockhart township and moved onto the same, creating there a fine piece of farming property, on which he made his home until his retirement from the active labors of the farm and removal to Ada, where he and his wife now reside, their second son now managing the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Luedke have six children, Wanda, Jennie, Albert, August, Lizzie and Willie, the last named of whom is working in a garage at Ada.

Wanda is married and the others remain on the home place. Mr. Luedke formerly had an interest in the creamery at Green Meadow and during the days of his active labors took an interested part in the work of development along all lines in the neighborhood in which he lived for so many years. Mrs. Luedke is the daughter of Christian and Elizabeth (Arnt) Andree, the former of whom was a laborer in Germany. After Mr. Luedke had settled here in Norman county he sent for his wife's parents and, in 1884, they came to this country and spent their last days with their daughter, the father dying in 1893, at the age of seventy-five years. The mother lived to the remarkable age of ninety-one years and died at her son's place in Green Meadow township, February 1, 1917. They were earnest members of the Lutheran church, to which Mr. Luedke and his family also belong.

P. S. VISTAUNET, M. D.

Dr. P. S. Vistaunet, well-known physician at Shelly and one of the best-schooled practitioners in Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since shortly after reaching his majority. He was born on November 9, 1868, son of Sivert P. and Louisa (Petersdatter) Vistaunet, also natives of Norway, both of whom were born in August, 1843, and the latter of whom is still living in her native land. Sivert P. Vistaunet was a farmer in Norway. In 1898 he and his wife came to this country with those of their children who had not preceded them here, and presently located at Fargo, with the intention of making his permanent home in this country, but in 1907 he and his wife returned to their old home in Norway and there he spent his last days, his death occurring in 1916. His widow is still living there. They were the parents of twelve children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Marie Magdaline (deceased), Peter L., Anton (deceased), Laura, Mary Ann (deceased), Anthonie, Signe, Gunder, Magnus, Johnson and Olaf, who died in infancy.

Reared on the home farm in his native Norway, P. S. Vistaunet received his early schooling in the schools of that country and remained there until after reaching his majority, when, in 1891, he came to the United States, locating at Lake Park, in Becker county, this state. In that vicinity he worked on a farm for about two years, at the end of which time he went to Fargo, where he remained from 1893 until 1901,



P. S. VISTAUNET, M. D.

spending several winters in the meantime in attendance at Concordia College, from the classical department of which institution he was graduated in 1901. The next year he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota and was graduated from that institution in 1906. Upon receiving his diploma Doctor Vistaunet was appointed an interne in the St. Paul city hospital and after thirteen months of very valuable practice in that institution became engaged in the office of Quain & Ramstad, physicians, at Bismarck, North Dakota, where he remained three months. He then opened an office at Lake Park, this state, and was engaged in practice at that place for five months, at the end of which time he formed a connection with his brother in the practice of his profession at Thief River Falls, but three months later, in 1908, moved to Badger, up in Roseau county, where he practiced for six months, the first half of 1909, at the end of which time he came down to Norman county and located at Halstad. In the spring of 1910 Doctor Vistaunet moved from Halstad to Shelly, where he ever since has been quite successfully engaged in practice. The doctor is a member of the Red River Valley Medical Association, in the deliberations of which organization he takes an active and an earnest interest, and ever keeps fully abreast of the wonderful advancement that is being made in his profession. He is a member of the Lutheran church and takes a proper interest in church affairs, as well as in the general good works of the community in which he lives.

JENS ANDERSON.

Jens Anderson, one of the pioneers of Clay and Norman counties, and now a retired farmer, who owns four hundred and eighty acres of Minnesota land, one-half section in Lee township, Norman county, where he lives, and a quarter section near Thief River Falls, Minnesota, is a native of Norway, born on February 7, 1840, a son of Andrew and Pethrina (Strand) Anderson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family. The former, who was born in 1802, carried on agricultural pursuits during the summer on the farm, which he owned, and in the winter, as a fisherman, gathered of the wide harvest along the deeply indented coast of his native country. After his death in 1852 the old farm was sold. The mother, who was born in 1820, remained in Norway and there died in 1895, at the age of seventy-five years. They were the parents of two children, the one besides the subject of this sketch being Peder, who is married and is living in northern Minnesota.

Jens Anderson spent his boyhood days on the old home farm back in the land of his nativity, where he received the valuable training which has been so useful to him since he began farming in this country. In the public schools of that country he received his elementary education. Until he was sixteen years of age he remained with his mother, helping and aiding in the cultivation of the old home farm. Immediately after his marriage, in 1869, he and his bride decided to come to America, the land of opportunity, and here establish their home. The voyage across the Atlantic was uneventful, and, after their landing, they came on out to Minnesota, locating for a short time with an uncle of Mr. Anderson, who lived in Houston county. They remained there for five months looking over the land, and in the early winter of the year of their immigration to this country took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in sections 19 and 20 of Moorhead township, Clay county, where they lived for eleven years, improving the land. At the end of that time, Mr. Anderson bought a half section of land in Lee township, Norman county, in section 9, to which the family removed, renting his homestead in Clay county until three years ago, when he sold it. With his characteristic industry and thrift he began the improvement of his new holding in Lee township, and now, included with his splendid farm plant, has a beautiful farm home, which is equipped with the modern farm-house conveniences. He carried on general diversified farming until four years ago when he retired and has since rented out his farm. In the early years of the settlement of this country, oxen comprised the chief draft animals, and for five or six years, Mr. Anderson worked two yokes; he also was a dealer in oxen and found a ready sale for the animals in those early days of the Red River country.

It was on June 28, 1869, that Jens Anderson was married to Pethrine Eliason, who was born on July 1, 1836, a daughter of Elias Jensen and Dorothea Pedersen. She came to America with her husband in the year of their marriage and died in 1892. To that union were born four children, three of whom are living and one who died in infancy. Anna and Kathinka have both proved up homesteads in Montana. Einar is married and lives in Perley. Mr. Anderson has always been a devoted and active member of the Lutheran church, as was his wife, and he helped to organize two churches of that denomination in pioneer days, and is at this time a trustee of one of them.

Mr. Anderson has also been very active in the civil affairs of the communities in which he has lived. While he was a resident of Clay county he was a member of the Moorhead township board, and since his removal

to Norman county he has served in the same capacity on the board of Lee township, which he helped to organize. He also served for some years on the Norman county board of commissioners, and throughout his official career has discharged his duties in a manner befitting his own sterling integrity and with complete satisfaction to everyone concerned. The educational progress of the community has come in for some of Mr. Anderson's time and attention, for he helped to organize school district No. 26, and has served on the school board for six years. In addition to his activities in the civic and educational affairs of the community Mr. Anderson has shown himself to be a progressive farmer by helping to organize better marketing facilities for the farmers of the township, the creamery and the farmers elevator at Perley.

ADNA H. BREILAND.

Success as a general farmer has attended the efforts of Adna H. Breiland, of Moorhead, Clay county, to the extent that he is now permitted to spend his declining years in retirement. He was born on March 31, 1846, in Norway. He is a son of Hans S. and Tona Breiland, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, attended school, married and established their home and there they spent their lives, never coming to America. The father owned what was considered a fairly large farm for that country, much of his land being in timber. He was an influential man in his community and was popular because he was always helping others and was obliging and neighborly. His death occurred in 1890, at the age of seventy-five. His wife preceded him to the grave in 1887, at the age of seventy-seven years. To these parents the following children were born: Edward, who died when two years old; Knut, who died in Norway in 1914, at the age of fifty years; Adna H., the subject of this sketch; Gone, who died in Norway at the age of seventy years; Ashia, who came to America and established his home in Wisconsin, where he died at the age of sixty years, leaving seven children, and Anna, who died in Norway at the age of sixty-three.

Adna H. Breiland grew to manhood in Norway and there attended school. He came to Minnesota when twenty-one years old and presently located in Clay county, taking up a pre-emption claim, in 1871, in Moland township. After spending two years on it he gave it up, the grasshoppers having destroyed his crops. He was one of the pioneers of the county and

endured many hardships and privations. His neighbors were few and trading posts were far away. He went back to Houston county, where he had first located, and spent two years there, then left Minnesota and returned to Norway, spending six months there in 1875. After his visit he returned to Houston county, Minnesota, married, and returned to Clay county. In 1877 he bought three hundred and twenty acres in section 23, Kragnes township. It was wild land and he broke up the sod, made all improvements, including the erection of suitable buildings and there he carried on general farming and stock raising with very satisfactory results until 1914, when he retired from active life and has since made his home in Moorhead, renting out his farm. He owns a nice home in the county seat and is very comfortably situated.

Mr. Breiland was married in 1876 to Gro TeErken, who was born in Wisconsin, in December, 1853. He took his wife on a trip to Norway with him in 1896. Her parents finally came to Houston county, Minnesota, where they owned a good farm. They are both now deceased. Two of their sons still live on the homestead there. Mr. and Mrs. Breiland have no children of their own, but have an adopted daughter, Dena, who is now Mrs. Clarence E. Bergland and is living at Columbus, Montana. Politically, Mr. Breiland is a Republican and has filled public offices in Kragnes township. He was a member of the first township board and served as supervisor for many years, and was also treasurer of the school board. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church, and while living on the farm was a trustee of the same.

LEO J. ROLLE

Leo J. Rolle, one of the prominent residents of Borup, Norman county, Minnesota, was born in Helling, Luxemburg, Europe, on April 18, 1873, and is the son of Joseph and Anna (Boever) Rolle, also natives of Luxemburg, who were there educated in the local public schools. They were of the farming class and were reared on the farm. After their marriage they established their home in the land of their nativity, where they continued to live until the year 1881, when they felt that they could better their condition by coming to America. That year they arrived in Minnesota, and purchased railroad land in Mary township, Norman county, and began the development of their future home. The farm was increased to four hundred and eighty acres of splendid land, much of which had been put under

cultivation and improved before the death of Mr. Rolle in the year 1888. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Rolle moved to Borup, where she died in 1911. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rolle were most excellent people, and brought with them, from their native land, the Luxemburger spirit of progress, economy and patriotism. They soon entered into the spirit of the new life of their new home and were among the prominent residents of the new district, with the general development of which they had so much to do. Mr. Rolle was a member of the local school board, a position he was well fitted by training and education to fill, and to him and such as he was due much of the success of the early schools of his home township. Mr. and Mrs. Rolle were members of the Catholic church, reared their children in the faith of the church and were ever devoted to the cause of Christianity. They were the parents of eight children, Joseph, Eugene J., Baptist J., Prosper, Leo. J., Adolph J., Sophia and Lillie Helena.

Leo J. Rolle received his early educational training in the schools of his native land and completed his schooling in the early schools of Mary township, Norman county, Minnesota. He was reared on the home farm in that township and early in life became impressed with the independent life of the farmer. He remained on the home farm, with the exception of two years that he spent on a farm in Canada, until 1913, when he came to Borup, where he has since made his home. During his active life on the old home place of four hundred and eighty acres, he placed much of the tract under cultivation. The family had settled on the tract when it was all raw prairie, and had transformed it into well-cultivated fields, and improved the same with splendid buildings. Since locating in the town of Borup, Mr. Rolle has devoted his time to some farming at the edge of the town, and does an extensive business in contract team work.

On October 30, 1900, Leo J. Rolle was married to Lena Schmitknecht, a native of the state of Wisconsin and the daughter of Andrew and Mary (Salvey) Schmitknecht. Her parents were born in Germany and were there educated and there they grew to maturity. Andrew Schmitknecht was married twice: first, in Rochester, New York, and moved to Wisconsin, where his wife died. Then he married Mary Salvey and lived in Wisconsin until the year 1879, when they came to Norman county, Minnesota. Here the father homesteaded a farm in Hagen township, and at once began the development and improvement of their new home. The mother did not live long to enjoy her new home on the prairie farm, she having died in the year 1881. The father later died in the state of Wisconsin.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rolle, have been born the following children: Leona, Sophia, Ella, Helena, Clara, Grace and Walter, all of whom are living with the exception of Grace, who died at the age of two years and six months. Mr. and Mrs. Rolle are devout members of the Catholic church and have reared their children in that faith. They have ever taken an active interest in the social and educational life of the town, and Mr. Rolle has served as constable since coming to Borup. Politically, he is a Republican.

ANDREW A. BRATLAND.

In the memorial annals of Norman county there are few names held in better memory than that of the late Andrew A. Bratland, former merchant, banker and leader of local enterprises at Hendrum and later a well-to-do landowner and farmer in Lee township, who died in the summer of 1903 and whose widow is still making her home on the farm in Lee township, where she and her family are very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. Andrew A. Bratland was born in the state of Wisconsin on January 4, 1853, and was but two or three years of age when his parents moved with their family into Minnesota and settled on a farm in the neighborhood of Minneapolis, where he grew to manhood and where he remained until after his marriage in 1874, when he came up here into the Red River valley and settled in Norman county, where he spent the remainder of his life, a man of helpful influence in the pioneer days of this section. He was one of nine sons born to his parents. Of these sons four are still living, two being residents of Norman county, Ole Bratland being a well-to-do farmer living east of Hendrum and Michael Bratland being a well-known lawyer at Ada, the county seat.

Upon coming to this section, Andrew A. Bratland bought land in Lee township and later added to his holdings there until he became the owner of a fine farm of four hundred and sixty-four acres in section 12, now owned by his widow. Upon the establishment of the townsite at Hendrum Mr. Bratland became a storekeeper there and continued in the mercantile business at that place for twelve years, his brother Ole, who had an interest in the farm, meanwhile farming the Lee township place. Andrew A. Bratland then bought his brother's interest in the farm and moved from the village onto the same and there established his home, spending the rest of his life there, his death occurring in June, 1903. Mr. Bratland, from the

very beginning of his residence here, was regarded as one of the most influential factors in the development of the region in which he settled, ever helpful in assisting those who were less fortunately placed than himself. He helped organize the bank at Hendrum and his widow is still the owner of shares in that bank. He also helped to organize creameries at Hendrum and at Perley and was a leading stockholder in these enterprises. His activities in local civic affairs were also intelligently directed and for some time he served as a member of the local school board and was treasurer of the same, and in other ways gave of his time and his energies to promoting all causes designed to advance the common welfare. He was a member of the local lodge of the Foresters.

On June 19, 1874, in the vicinity of Minneapolis, Andrew A. Bratland was united in marriage to Nettie Olson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway on May 16, 1859, and who was fifteen years of age when she came with her parents to this country, her parents spending the rest of their lives in Minnesota. Mrs. Bratland has two brothers and two sisters. To Andrew A. and Nettie (Olson) Bratland eight children were born, namely: Inge, deceased; Michael, who is married and is now living in Canada; Olin, who lives in Montana; Albert, who is at home, in general direction of the home farm, and Teluf, Edgar, Chester and Andrew, also at home.

CHARLES H. HAMMERUD.

Another industrious farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, is Charles H. Hammerud, who owns a good farm near Barnesville. He was born in Norway, November 10, 1878. He is a son of Halvor and Jessie (Grimesrud) Hammerud, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and settled, but in the spring of 1879 they immigrated to the United States. Coming on West they selected for their future home a farm in Lake Park township, Becker county, Minnesota, and there, by hard work and perseverance, they became very comfortably established. The father spent the rest of his life there, dying some time ago, and the mother is still living in that county. He bought eighty acres when he arrived there and was active in the affairs of his township. He helped organize the first Lutheran church in his locality and was active in the work of the same. His widow is also a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church. To these parents eleven children were born, namely: Ole, Hans,

Christina (who died in the spring of 1916), Iver, Mary, Andrew, Charles H., Henry, George, Albert and Rudolph.

Charles H. Hammerud was but a few months old when his parents brought him to America. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Becker county, Minnesota, and there he attended the district schools of Lake Park township. About 1902 he began farming where he now lives in Humboldt township, Clay county, and he has remained here ever since, carrying on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He now operates two hundred acres, one hundred and twenty of which he owns. His land is well improved and under an excellent state of cultivation. He has a comfortable home and such outbuildings as his needs require. The rest of the land—eighty acres—belongs to his father-in-law. He built the fine barn now to be seen on the place.

Mr. Hammerud was married in 1906 to Gene Olson, who was born in Grant county, Wisconsin, and whose parents moved during the days of her childhood to Humboldt township, Clay county, locating on the place where the subject of this sketch now lives. Mr. and Mrs. Hammerud have two children, Agnes and Helmer. Politically, Mr. Hammerud is independent and he and his wife belong to the Lutheran church.

JACOB HADLER

Jacob Hadler, a former member of the board of commissioners of Norman county and a well-known and well-to-do retired merchant of Ada, a landowner in Pleasant View township, secretary of the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada and in other ways actively identified with the affairs of this section, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was fifteen years of age and of Norman county since 1879, having been a homesteader there in the days before the formal organization of the county as a civic entity. He was born in the village of Neuenfelde, near the city of Hamburg, on March 5, 1854, son of Jacob and Marget (Hadler) Hadler, natives of that same village, who died when he was a child. The elder Jacob Hadler was a farmer and he and his wife were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch is now the only survivor.

Orphaned at the age of seven years, Jacob Hadler was reared by a maternal aunt and remained in his native Germany until he was fifteen



JACOB HAMLER AND FAMILY.

years of age, when, in 1869, he came to the United States, proceeding on out to Minnesota and locating at Red Wing, in the vicinity of which city he remained ten years, working on farms, and during the last three years of which period he operated a threshing-rig. In 1879 Mr. Hadler came over to this part of the state and settled in Norman county, entering a homestead claim to a quarter of a section of land in section 14 of what later was organized as Pleasant View township. The next year he married and established his home there and presently bought an adjoining quarter section of railroad land, thus acquiring a half section of land, which he still owns. From the very beginning of his farming operations here Jacob Hadler prospered and after a while bought another tract of two hundred acres in section 11 and eighty acres in section 24 of Pleasant View township, but later sold one hundred and twenty acres of the two-hundred-acre tract. In 1902 Mr. Hadler engaged in the business of selling binder twine and in 1911 engaged in the sale of agricultural implements at Ada, continuing in that business until just recently, now continuing only the sale of twine. Though still giving some attention to the management of his farming interests, Mr. Hadler for some time has been living practically retired from the active labors of the farm, his son, Albert E. Hadler, operating the home farm.

Ever since taking up his residence in Norman county Mr. Hadler has taken an active interest in local political affairs and during his long residence on the farm served in nearly every township office save those of treasurer, constable and justice of the peace. In 1906 he was elected a member of the board of county commissioners of Norman county from his district and served in that important public capacity until 1915. Mr. Hadler was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada and has been a member of the board of directors of the same almost all the time since its organization. He formerly was president of the company and is now secretary of the same. He also was formerly secretary of the Green Meadow Creamery Association. When the railroad came through Mr. Hadler secured the establishment of a station about two miles from his home and the same was given the name of Hadler in his honor.

It was in January, 1880, not long after entering his homestead claim in Norman county, that Jacob Hadler was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Henrietta Bauer, who was born at Evansville, Indiana, a daughter of Constant Bauer and wife, who came to Minnesota and settled in Goodhue county, not far from Red Wing, where Constant Bauer spent the rest

of his life as a farmer. Mrs. Hadler died in 1908, leaving six children, namely: Benjamin H., who is a grain buyer at Arndt, North Dakota; Ida C., wife of William A. Grieve, of Ada; Walter G., a merchant and grain buyer at Hadler; Jacob J., an attorney at Big Falls; Wilhelmina M., a member of Norman county's excellent corps of public school teachers, and Albert E., who is farming the old home place in Pleasant View township. Mr. Hadler is an earnest member of the Lutheran church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. Mr. and Mrs. Hadler were among the most active of the organizers of St. John's Lutheran church in Green Meadow township and Mr. Hadler was elected a member of the first board of trustees of the same, a position he held for many years. He is now a member of Emmanuel Lutheran church in Pleasant View township and takes an earnest interest in church work as well as in the general good works of the community in which he has lived since pioneer days, and the general interests of which he has done so much to promote.

ED. O. THORSTAD.

Of the prominent and successful merchants of Lockhart, Norman county, Minnesota, it is well to mention Ed. O. Thorstad, who was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, in 1884, a son of James O. and Elizabeth (Erickson) Thorstad, both of whom were born in the United States. The parents lived on a farm in Mitchell county for many years after their marriage and there met with considerable success in their chosen work. They were members of the United Lutheran church, and they were greatly admired by the people of their home district for their many qualities of pure manhood and womanhood. In 1905 they left their home in Iowa and moved to Pennington county, Minnesota, where they established their home on a farm and where they still reside, and where the father is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

Ed. O. Thorstad was educated in the schools of Iowa, and there he was reared on the home farm and was taught the principles of agriculture by his father. As a young man he engaged in farming in his native county, where he remained until his parents came to Pennington county, Minnesota, at which time he accompanied them. There he engaged in farming for a time, and in 1910 entered the mercantile business at Thief River Falls, Minnesota. There he successfully conducted his business until 1916, when he came to Lockhart, where he has since continued in the business. On

going to Thief River Falls, he was employed by others in management of their stores. Having met with unusual success he came to Lockhart as manager of the general store of Theo. Salverson. Here by his courteous manner and business-line methods he has won the confidence of the proprietor of the concern and the honor and respect of the public. Being a man of ability and possessed of a most progressive spirit, he is able to know his customers and to cater to their wants. Honest, upright and industrious, he has won for himself an enviable place in the estimation of the people among whom he lives. Few men in public life have a higher regard for the duty they owe to the community in which they live and transact business than has Mr. Thorstad.

On June 1, 1911, Ed. O. Thorstad and Elma Becken were united in marriage. To this union two children have been born, Jordan and Harriet, who are now reaching the age when they are of much comfort and pleasure to their parents. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thorstad are active members of the United Lutheran church, to the support of which they are liberal subscribers and in the services of which they take the greatest interest.

ANUND K. STRAND.

Anund K. Strand, a prosperous and well-known farmer, owner of a splendid body of land consisting of seven hundred and twenty acres, breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep, former treasurer of Norman county and for forty years a member of the local school board, was born in Norway on November 27, 1846, a son of Kittel B. and Asjer Olson (Strand) Strand, also natives of the same country.

Kittel B. Strand, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Norway and at an early age commenced at the work of a farmer, which he continued throughout his active life. He was married to Asjer Olson Strand and they became the parents of six children as follow: Anund K., Bjorguf, Aase, Olaf (deceased), Eglef (deceased), and Halvor. The parents of these children spent all their lives in their native land and were respected residents of the place where they reared their family. They were active and influential members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the faith of the same congregation.

Anund K. Strand was educated in the schools of his native land and later became a valued assistant to his father in the operation of the home farm. At the age of thirty-five years he decided to try his fortune in this country, where so many of his countrymen had preceded him, and in 1871

he arrived in the United States and proceeded to Wisconsin, settling in Vernon county, that state, living there for ten years, engaged at various occupations, including clerking and teaching school. In the fall of 1880 Mr. Strand came to Ada, Norman county, where he spent two years, engaged at clerking and other occupations. In 1882 he came to Lake Ida township and homesteaded sixty acres of land, part of his present holding of seven hundred and twenty acres, and here he has remained ever since, actively engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is generally recognized as one of the most progressive and extensive agriculturalists in this part of the county and his farm, to which he has added an excellent grove, ranks among the best in the county. In addition to his land holdings he is interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle, Percheron horses, Poland China hogs and Shropshire sheep, and in this branch has been eminently successful.

On January 4th, 1878, Anund K. Strand was united in marriage to Anna Ramstad, a daughter of Lars and Marie Ramstad, who were born in Norway and there spent part of their lives and where Lars Ramstad was a farmer. In 1865 Lars Ramstad came to the United States with his wife and nine children and settled at Coon Prairie, Wisconsin, where his wife died in 1894. He returned in 1895 to his native land and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring there in 1898. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom but two are now living, Mrs. Strand and her sister, Mrs. Karie Handey. The Ramstads were all members of the Lutheran church. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Strand the following children were born: Carrie, Olaf, Kittel (deceased), Nordahl, Elmer, Laura and Silas. The Strands are active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works, as well as of all community movements having for their object the betterment of the township and county.

Mr. Strand has always been actively connected in the public affairs of his home neighborhood, serving the public with zeal and fidelity. In the fall of 1882 he was elected treasurer of Norman county, being the first to fill the duties of that important office, and served the people for six consecutive years, living on his farm and attending to the duties of his office every day, walking to and from Ada for that purpose. While in office he planted the big cottonwood tree which is to be seen in the courtyard, and which is now the largest tree in the yard. He has served for the unusually long term of forty years on the local school board and during that period has been one of the most regular attendants at the board. He and Anton Shea helped to organize and name the county and they are the only two men now living of

those who were originally connected with the early official work of Norman county. Mr. Strand is now in his seventy-first year and is honored and respected throughout the county by a large circle of friends, who recognize his worth and the value of his works to the community at large.

BENNIE BREMER.

Bennie Bremer, a well-known and energetic farmer living in Pleasant View township, Norman county, was born on his father's homestead on December 29, 1882, a son of Peter and Anna (Tomhove) Bremer, natives of Germany, who came to this country in the early seventies.

Peter Bremer was born about 1831 and died in 1894, at the age of sixty-three years. He was a farmer in his native land and on coming to this country he proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, where he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6, Pleasant View township, in 1877. Some years later he bought a quarter section in section 28, Pleasant View township, and immediately commenced the task of putting the place into a state of cultivation, engaging in general farming, and from the beginning of his operations met with marked success. He carried out a number of valuable improvements, erected substantial buildings and was generally regarded as one of the progressive agriculturalists of this part of the township. Mr. Bremer died on this place, where he had been living for two years before his death.

Peter Bremer was twice married. He was married to his first wife in Germany and they became the parents of three children as follow: Peter, who is married and lives near Lockhart; Henry, who is married and lives in Montana; and Dick, who is living in Seattle, Washington. Following the death of his first wife Mr. Bremer was married to Anna Tomhove, a native of Germany, and who is still living at the age of seventy-two years. By his second union Peter Bremer became the father of six children, namely: Katie, who is married and is living in Fosston; Willie, married and living in Dakota; Anna, married and living in Fosston; Fred, living in section 6, Pleasant View township; Bennie, the subject of this sketch, and Clara, married and living near the old homestead. Peter Bremer helped to organize and was a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Ada. While taking a good citizen's interest in all matters tending to the welfare of the public, he was not an aspirant to public office.

Bennie Bremer was educated in the schools of Norman county and was reared on his father's farm, where he became a valuable assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place and where, under his father's guidance, he learned the rudiments of practical husbandry. On the death of his father he inherited a portion of the estate and later bought additional land from his sisters and brothers, and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, on which he carries on general farming. Mr. Bremer has effected many improvements to the existing farm buildings and is regarded as one of the energetic farmers of the township. In addition to his farming operations he also has a herd of high-grade stock.

In 1913 Bennie Bremer was united in marriage to Fredia Ollroth, who was born in 1885 on a homestead farm in Green Meadow township. Her parents now reside in Ada. Mr. and Mrs. Bremer take a proper part in the general social activities of the neighborhood in which they reside, ever helpful in all good causes designed to promote the community welfare.

FRED HABERLE

Fred Haberle, former chairman of the board of supervisors of Skree township, Clay county, and the proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in that township, where he has lived since pioneer days, he having been one of the homesteaders there, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of this country since 1880. He was born on September 12, 1848, son of John Melchior and Fredericka (Casemann) Haberle, also natives of that country, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of five children, Fred, Fredericka, Katherine, Henry W. and Elizabeth, all of whom are still living. John Melchior Haberle and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Reared in Germany, Fred Haberle received his schooling there and grew up a practical farmer. He married in 1874 and after his marriage continued to make his home in his native land until 1880, in which year he came to the United States with his little family, arriving at the port of New York on October 30 of that year. Not long afterward he came on out to Minnesota, and after staying awhile at St. Paul proceeded on out here to the Red River country, arriving at Barnesville on July 9, 1881. After prospecting a bit Mr. Haberle homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in

Skree township, built a house on the same and there established his home and proceeded to improve and develop his place. In 1902 he bought an adjoining "eighty" on the north and moved his buildings onto the same, erected additional buildings, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Haberle has a well-equipped farm plant and has done well in his farming operations. He also has given close attention to local civic affairs and was for three years a member of the board of supervisors of Skree township and one year chairman of the board.

In 1874, while living in Germany, Fred Haberle was united in marriage to Gottliebin Loenhardt, who also was born in that country, daughter of Fred Loenhardt and wife, the latter of whom was a Miller, who spent all their lives in their native land, and to this union have been born eleven children, Gottlob, William, Fred, Mary, Katie, Herman, Anna, Charles, Jacob, Henry and George, all of whom are living save Katie, who met her death in the dreadful prairie fire in the neighborhood of her home in 1887. The Haberles are members of the Lutheran church.

LOUIS POSSEHL.

Louis F. Possehl is one of the painstaking farmers of Felton township, Clay county. He was born in Cook county, Illinois, November 2, 1876, a son of Fred and Minnie (Scheide) Possehl, natives of Germany, from which country they emigrated to America when young, locating in Cook county, Illinois. Later they moved to Dupage county, Illinois, after which the family removed to Franklin county, Iowa, where the father remained until 1911, in which year he located at Baker, Clay county, Minnesota, where he has since been living in retirement. By his own efforts and untiring industry he became very comfortably established, although his early environment was unpromising. Fred and Minnie Possehl were the parents of the following children: Sophia, Emma, Herman, H. C., Fred, Jr., Martha, Louis and Minnie. The mother of these children is deceased.

Louis F. Possehl spent his childhood in Illinois, but received his early education in the rural schools of Franklin county, Iowa. He assisted his father with the work on the home farm as soon as old enough, and began farming for himself in Franklin county, Iowa, in 1891, becoming the owner of a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he continued general farming and stock raising until 1910, when he disposed of this farm and removed to the village of Baker, Minnesota, where he engaged in the

general merchandise and hardware business, which he carried on with ever-growing success until in October, 1916. He carried a large and well selected stock of goods, everything wanted by a farming community, and his customers came from over a wide territory. Upon the last mentioned date he traded his store for his present farm in section 28, Felton township, Clay county. He is the owner of the entire east one-half of the section, and has a valuable and well-improved farm, on which he is carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully. He raises large numbers of live stock which he prepares for the market, and he is also engaged in a dairying business and finds a very ready market for his products. His property adjoins the town of Felton, and is admirably located for dairy purposes. Mr. Posschl has a family and a cozy home and good and substantial buildings for farm and dairy work. He has a large silo and commodious barn and is well equipped for handling stock.

THOMAS L. TODD.

Thomas L. Todd, the owner of four hundred acres of fine land in Hendrum township, Norman county, where he raises stock and carries on general farming, was born on July 25, 1876, in Montreal, Canada, the son of Samuel and Eliza (Ligget) Todd, the former of whom was born in the province of Quebec, Canada, where he received his education and married Eliza Jane Ligget in 1869. While he lived in Canada he was a farmer, but the opportunities for men in such work being better farther West, he moved with his family to Minnesota, and bought land in section 30 of Hendrum township, Norman county, becoming an important land owner and grain farmer, having eight hundred acres in the home place, four hundred elsewhere and at one time was the owner of about two thousand acres. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, namely: John A., a grain dealer in Duluth, Minnesota; Roxana Margaret, who lives in Minneapolis; Samuel F., living at Seattle, Washington; Thomas L., a farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county; William Thornton, deceased; Chester A., of Seattle, Washington, and Victor Charles, who lives on the old home place. The family are members of the Presbyterian church, in the affairs of which they have always taken an active and conscientious part. On the death of Samuel Todd, in January, 1907, his widow removed to Minneapolis, where she has since lived, leaving the care of her holdings to her sons.

Thomas L. Todd spent the early years of his childhood in the province of Quebec, Canada, and was four years of age when his parents came to Minnesota and located south of the village of Hendrum, where he attended the local schools. Later he entered Fargo College, and after he had finished his schooling there returned to the home place and began his very successful career on the farm. Soon after he began farming on the home place, where he derived much useful experience in wresting the treasures from the soil, he decided to extend his operations by purchasing some land on his own account. He has increased his holdings until now he has four hundred acres of fine land, which he has improved by skillful cultivation and by the erection of modern farm buildings; he also farms four hundred acres for his mother. At the present time he is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey hogs, in addition to his general farming pursuits.

On May 23, 1901, Mr. Todd was united in marriage to Lillie M. Vanstrum, who was born at Kirkhoven, near Willmar, Minnesota, May 14, 1879, the daughter of C. W. and Ida (Bunting) Vanstrum, natives of Ohio, who came to Minnesota and located at Dassel, where both died, he being eighty years of age at the time of his death and she, eighty-two. To this union have been born the following children: Earl, who died; Arnet, Kenneth, Glenn and Lester. Mr. Todd and his family are members of the Presbyterian church, in the affairs of which they have been active. Politically he is independent. In addition to his most successful efforts in up-to-date farming, Mr. Todd gives a good citizen's attention to the local affairs of his community.

JENS N. LANDRO.

Jens N. Landro, the proprietor of two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land in Hendrum township, where he carries on general farming and stock raising, was born on his father's homestead in this township, February 8, 1880, the son of Nels J. and Anna (Stordahl) Landro, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married. In 1876, one year after the latter's father and mother, John O. and Janetta (Beckdahl) Stordahl, came to America, Mr. and Mrs. Landro decided to follow their example and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained three years. Learning what opportunities awaited them in Norman county where Mrs.

Landro's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stordahl, had located two years before, Nels Landro and wife loaded their household goods and farming implements into a wagon and pushed northward behind their slow-moving ox-team toward Norman county. They reached the end of their journey after a few weeks and immediately took a homestead of eighty acres in section 22, where they lived until they retired from farming to the village of Hendrum, where they now live. During his residence on the farm, Mr. Landro was variously connected with the different movements of his neighborhood, having helped to organize the Pontopidan Lutheran church and various local corporations. When he left the farm, it contained one hundred and sixty acres. To the elder Landro and wife eight children were born, namely: John, Ole, Johanna, Nels, Jens, Albert, Julia and Martin, the latter of whom died at the age of two years.

Jens N. Landro has always lived in Hendrum township and there he received his common-school education. Until 1903 he remained on the old home place where he contributed his zeal and industry to the material benefit of the family and at the same time acquired some valuable practical experience, which was of great use to him when he began farming on his own account. In the year mentioned above he left the parental roof tree and began farming on the place where he now lives, having been there all of this time except the three years which he spent on his father's place. His unflagging industry has enabled him to extend his holdings until now he is the owner of one of the best improved farms in Hendrum township. He is a very progressive farmer and believes in the use of modern improvements on his farm as soon as he is convinced that they will be of substantial benefit to his business. In 1913 he erected his well-appointed farm house, where he and his family are delightfully situated; and in 1915 he made another valuable improvement when he built his large circular barn, which is seventy feet in diameter. At this time, in addition to his general farming, he makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred Holstein cattle, and has thus contributed much to raising the standard of stock in his community.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Landro is interested in the betterment of the marketing and credit facilities of his community. He helped to organize the creamery and to reorganize the Farmers' Elevator Company of Hendrum, being a member of the board of directors of the latter institution; and in addition to these, he is interested in the Farmers' State Bank of Hendrum. Politically, Mr. Landro adheres to independent principles. He has been called upon by his neighbors to serve the town-

ship's interests on its board, of which he has been a member for seven years, two of which he has served as chairman. He has also performed an estimable service for the educational progress of the community while he has been a member of the township school board for the last three years.

On November 26th, 1903, Mr. Landro was united in marriage to Mary Ingberg, who was born in Hendrum township, November 5, 1877, the daughter of P. O. and Emma (Neuland) Ingberg, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. To this union four children have been born, Ingwald, Alice, Ida and Palmer, all of whom are living. Mr. Landro and family are members of the Pontopidan Lutheran church, and in the affairs of the same they take an active interest.

OLE N. BJORND AHL.

One of the painstaking farmers of Skree township, Clay county, is Ole N. BJORND AHL, who was born in Norway, March 23, 1876. He is a son of Nels and Torgen (Ulvick) BJORND AHL, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married. They came to Minnesota in 1878, locating in Parke township, Clay county, and during the following year the father bought a homestead right of Amund Olson for his eighty acres, and later he homesteaded an additional eighty, improved his land and there carried on general farming until his death. His widow still lives on the homestead. He prospered with the advancing years and added twenty acres of timber land, eighty acres of railroad land and forty acres of prairie land, making in all a large and excellent farm, on which he erected substantial buildings and made other important improvements. He set out a large grove, embracing several acres, the government paying him for the work. He helped start the Grong Lutheran church. His family consisted of ten children, namely: Nellie, the wife of Nels Olson; Vina, the wife of William Shaver; Nels N., Mrs. Carrie Jaques, Ole N., Mrs. Inge Robinson, Adolph, who is at home, Mrs. Louisa Markel, Knut N. and Nina, who is teaching school and lives at home.

Ole N. BJORND AHL grew to manhood on the home farm and attended the district schools. When a young man he bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land in Eglon township, Clay county, which he cultivated, although remaining at home. In 1900 he went to McHenry county, North Dakota, and filed on one hundred and sixty acres. He lived there seven years, making all improvements, building a house and outbuildings, fences, setting out a grove, etc. He still desired further educational advantages and

he then went to Highland Park College, Des Moines, Iowa, for a short time, after which he went to Colorado, where he spent a year and a half, then came back to Minnesota. Six months later he went to North Dakota again, but after selling his homestead there he returned to Clay county, Minnesota, and bought two hundred and forty acres in Skree township. A year later, in 1908, he married Betsy Julia Hanson, who was born in Skree township, a daughter of Kittle Hanson and wife.

The subject of this sketch has continued to reside on his farm in Skree township, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. He has eighty acres of the one hundred and twenty of railroad land which he first bought in Eglon township, having sold forty acres to his father. He has kept the land well improved and well cultivated and has one of the choice farms of the township. He believes in modern improvements and modern methods of agriculture. He has a fine, large grove, which was planted in the early days by Peter Wilson, the first owner of the land. He has experienced many "ups and downs," especially as a homesteader in North Dakota, but by persevering and bearing his vicissitudes courageously, he has become well established and is in comfortable circumstances.

To Ole N. Bjorndahl and wife two children have been born, namely: Tilda Bertina and Clifford Norman. Mr. Bjorndahl is a member of the Lutheran church.

PETER O. FISKUM.

Peter O. Fiskum, a farmer of Tansem township, Clay county, was born in Norway, October 9, 1836. He is a son of Ole Olson and Bertha Maria (Svensdatter) Fiskum, both natives of Norway, where they spent their lives on a farm. They were parents of five children, three of whom, Hannah, Iver and Ole Olson, remained in Norway, and Marin and Peter O., twins. Marin came to America in 1866 and located in Iowa, where she married Ole H. Larson, and there she spent the rest of her life, dying some time ago.

Peter O. Fiskum spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended school. He came to America in 1858, locating first in Houston county, Minnesota, where he went to school one month. He worked on a farm there. After spending one winter in that county he went to Mononic, Dunn county, Wisconsin, where he worked in a saw-mill and there he worked until in April, 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, Fifth Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. He was sent South and saw considerable service, but

was taken sick before Richmond, Virginia. He spent some time in the government hospital at Philadelphia and when released was discharged from the service on account of disability. After his experience as a soldier he went back to Spring Grove, Houston county, Minnesota, later to Fillmore county, this state, where he resided until 1871, when he removed to Clay county, bringing his wife and child in a prairie schooner, drawn by an ox-team, the trip requiring a month. He located on his present farm in Tansem township, taking up a homestead, one-fourth of section 12. He began life here in typical pioneer fashion, broke the wild prairie sod with his oxen, put up a group of buildings and planted crops. After living on the place eight years he bought one hundred acres of railroad land, on which he has erected his present home, barn and other excellent buildings, which land adjoins his original homestead. He has brought it all up to a high state of improvement and cultivation and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is one of the best-known residents of his township, having lived here since the early pioneer days, or during a period of forty five years, during which time he has lived to see the country develop from the wild plains to one of the foremost farming sections in the state. He helped organize Tansem township and was the first clerk of the township. Later he served as justice of the peace and as assessor several years, and also served as county commissioner for eight years. As a public servant he gave entire satisfaction to all concerned, being prompt, able, painstaking and courteous. He has always taken an abiding interest in the affairs of his township and has helped promote its welfare along general lines from the first. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Pelican Rapids. He has been very successful in a business way and is one of the substantial men of his community.

In 1869, in Fillmore county, this state, Mr. Fiskum was married to Sophia Bertilson, who was born in Norway, from which country she came to America with her parents when young, the family locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota. Her parents were Berthel and Ragnal Thorson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and married, immigrating to the United States in 1860 and establishing their home in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they resided until 1876, when they removed to Otter Tail county, spending the rest of their lives there. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Fiskum: Betsie M., Ole B., Sven R., Peter A., Olive, Magnus, Petra, Otto, Georgia and Adolph, all of whom are living.

Politically, Mr. Fiskum is a Republican. He has never been a seeker for political offices. He helped organize the Grong Lutheran church. Mr.

Fiskum recalls many interesting reminiscences of the early days in this locality. The first time he took wheat to mill to have ground into flour, he was compelled to go to Alexandria, making the long journey in a wagon drawn by oxen, the time required being eight days.

HANS RASMUSSEN.

A pioneer of Norman county, where he owns a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres on which he carries on an advanced type of diversified farming, is Hans Rasmussen, born in the kingdom of Norway on December 5, 1852, the son of Martin and Helena (Halvorson) Rasmussen. His parents were both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity and married. Since several of their children had cast their lot with the agricultural interests of the New World, they, too, in 1877, came to America and located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, where they lived with their son, Matt. In the spring of 1882 this son brought his father and mother to Norman county, Minnesota, where they lived for a time with their son, Simon. Later, however, they made their home with the son who was mentioned above, and with him they remained the rest of their lives. Martin and Helena Rasmussen were the parents of five children, Hans, the subject of this review being the second in order of birth; the others are: Matt, now living in Anthony township, Norman county; Amund, living near Bemidji, Minnesota; Simon, of Norman county, and John, who is also a resident of Norman county.

When he was only seventeen years of age, after having received his common-school education in the land of his nativity, Hans Rasmussen, with no capital save rugged health and an indomitable spirit for making good in a new country, came to America and first located in Dodge county, Wisconsin, to which his brother, Matt, had preceded him. There he remained for twelve years, accustoming himself to the institutions and the ways of doing things in the New World, by working out for seven or eight years and farming the rest of the period. Finally, after he had accumulated sufficient resources to permit his acquiring a holding of his own, he came to Minnesota, in 1881, and bought two hundred and forty acres of land not far from Halstad in Anthony township, Norman county. Dominated by the desire to make the best of his farm, he immediately set about improving it, and now it is one of the best improved farming plants in all

Anthony township, being supplied with excellent and practical farm buildings, around which he has planted a grove.

On January 17, 1887, Hans Rasmussen was united in marriage to Bertha Jenson, also a native of Norway, daughter of Gunder Jenson. To Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen have been born eleven children, Emile, Martin, Gunda, Minnie, Helen, Ida, Gladys, Martha, Lillian and Evalyn, all of whom are living, and Gunda, who died at the early age of two years. Mr. and Mrs. Rasmussen are members of the Lutheran church, the former having helped to organize the East Marsh River church of that denomination, and in the teachings of this creed they have reared their children.

Aside from his activity on his fine farm, Mr. Rasmussen has wisely seen fit to connect himself with a very important co-operative business interest of his community, the farmers elevator, at Halstad, which he helped to organize; which interest indicates that he is alive to the needs of his neighborhood in better marketing facilities. He has been chosen by his neighbors to represent their interests as a member of the township board.

GILBERT KITTILSON.

From far-away Norway has come to the United States some of our best citizens and most successful men of affairs. We find former subjects of this peninsular kingdom occupying positions of honor and trust in nearly every part of our great domain. They have entered into the vocations common to our people, have made good in the same and are today honored and substantial men. Educated as they are to battle with the difficulties of life, they have come to a new country and amid new conditions with the determination to succeed in their life's work. Having lived in a land where the horizon of their opportunities is limited, they have come to a land where the field is broader, and have accepted the situation as an omen of success if rightfully used. Honest, frugal and industrious, quick of apprehension and possessed of a strong business acumen, they have succeeded where others have failed. Of this noble class of people who have left their native land and sought their future success in the state of Minnesota, it is well to mention Gilbert Kittilson, a successful banker of Borup, Norman county. He was born on November 3, 1876, and received his education in the schools of his native land, where he was reared amid the picturesque scenes of the homes of the early Norse navigators. He remained in the land of his birth until the year 1892, when he bade farewell to the scenes of his boyhood and sailed for

America, the land of opportunity. On his arrival in this country he proceeded at once to Trail county, North Dakota, where he worked as a farm hand and attended school in the winters. In 1897 he left the farm and came over into Minnesota and began working in a store at Ada. Here he made good and was presently appointed deputy register of deeds, which position he held for eight years, to the entire satisfaction of all. After completing his term of office he entered the First State Bank of Ada, and there remained for two years, at the end of which time, in the spring of 1915, he became cashier of the Security State Bank of Borup. This institution does a general banking business and writes insurance. In his position as cashier of the bank Mr. Kittilson has demonstrated his ability as a man of business acumen and of the highest integrity.

In 1903 Gilbert Kittilson married Hannah Moffatt, the daughter of F. Moffatt and wife, highly respected people of the county, and to this union have been born three children, Mildred, Fayette and Lucine. Mr. and Mrs. Kittilson are prominent members of the Congregational church and are popular in the social life of the town. Mr. Kittilson is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons and of the Modern Woodmen of America and has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of his home community.

JAKOB OLSON DRAGELAND.

One of the later settlers of Norman county, where he owns a half interest in a fine farm of two hundred acres of fine farming land in Halstad township, is Jakob Olson Drageland. He is a native of the distant Norway, born there on January 17, 1861, a son of Ole and Karen (Stole) Drageland, both of whom were born in Norway, there grew to manhood and womanhood, married and raised their family. Back in the old home land across the Atlantic, the father, who was a steady farmer, was laid to rest. The widowed mother, on the invitation of her son, the subject of this review, came to Minnesota in 1894 to share with him the comfort and conveniences of his home in Norman county, where she has since resided. Ole and Karen Drageland were the parents of six children, Jakob Olson being the fifth in order of birth, and the others as follow: Gabriel, Severin, Gertie, Anna and Lena, who married John Aamodt and died in 1906 on the farm where her brother, Jakob Drageland, now lives. The subject of this sketch is the only one of his father's children living, all the rest, except Mrs. John Aamodt, dying in Norway.



JAKOB O. DRAGELAND.

Jakob Olson Drageland spent his boyhood and youth on the old home farm back in Norway, where he attended the public schools, and had just reached man's estate when he arrived in America, the land of opportunity, in 1882. He spent the summer of that year in Blue Earth county, Minnesota, and then until 1884 lived the rugged life of a lumberjack in and around Duluth, this state. Feeling that he had a better chance to become independent, financially and industrially, in farming, as he had already had much valuable experience in this line back in the land of his nativity, he came over to Norman county and began working on farms, including the Grandin farm, just across the Red river, on the North Dakota side. Finally, in 1898, he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, John Aamodt, and together they bought two hundred acres in section 9, Halstad township, where they now carry on general farming, both making this place their home. The holding is now a well-improved one, the owners having recently erected a fine barn.

Mr. Drageland has never married. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and has always been an active, consistent and conscientious adherent to that creed. Politically, he is a staunch advocate of independent principles, but has never sought office; nevertheless in all the affairs of his community which have for their aim the common weal, he has ever been active.

THOR GILBERTSON.

The late Thor Gilbertson, for years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers and stockmen of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, the proprietor of a fine farm of five hundred and sixty acres and for about thirty years a resident of that township, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born on June 24, 1850, a son of Gulbrand and Bergit (Peterson) Thorson. His parents were also born in that country, where the father died, the mother coming to America some time after the son, Thor, had immigrated, and here she died in February, 1898, while living in Norman county. They were the parents of the following children: Asfred, Anna, Turi, Thor, the subject of this memorial sketch, and Ragnil, all of whom are deceased.

Thor Gilbertson was educated mostly in his native Norway and at the age of twenty-one, in 1871, he came to this country and proceeded on out to

the state of Minnesota, locating in Spring Grove township, Houston county, where, and in Fillmore county, he worked for the neighborhood farmers until 1878. In the latter year he came to Norman county, making the journey by ox-team and also drove cattle, the trip occupying over one month. On arriving in this county he immediately homesteaded a quarter section of land in McDonaldsville township and proceeded to get the place in a state of cultivation and presently had things going in fine shape, carrying on general farming and adding to his holding as he prospered in his agricultural operations, finally becoming the owner of five hundred acres of prime land, on which he erected a number of substantial buildings and set out a fine grove, which enhanced the value of the place. Mr. Gilbertson died on July 28, 1900, leaving to his family, in addition to his valuable property, a good name, the best of man's possessions.

On April 26, 1876, in Fillmore county, this state, Thor Gilbertson was united in marriage to Anna Evans, a sister of Edward Evans, mentioned in another part of this work. When Thor Gilbertson was coming to settle in Norman county, his wife walked the greater part of the way, helping to drive the stock, and the Gilbertsons were accompanied on the journey by Olaf Anderson and family. To Thor Gilbertson and wife the following children were born: Rachael, Gilbert, Nellie, Bergina, Anna, Nels, Clara, Emil, Carl, Albert and Esther, all of whom are living. Thor Gilbertson was a member of the Lutheran church and helped to organize the first church in the community, the West Wild Rice congregation, and in other ways gave of his time and energy to all movements calculated to promote the general welfare of the township and county.

Gilbert Gilbertson, second born of the eleven children born to his parents, was born on his father's homestead in McDonaldsville township on October 12, 1878. He was educated in the public schools of the township and helped his father in the labors of the farm, a valuable assistant, and continued to live on the old home place until 1912. In the latter year he moved to his present farm of two hundred and eighty-five acres and is actively engaged in general farming, success having attended his labors since the very beginning, and he is accounted one of the most progressive farmers of the township, his farming operations being carried on according to modern methods.

On December 11, 1913, Gilbert Gilbertson was united in marriage to Laura Strand, a daughter of A. K. Strand, of Lake Ada township, Norman county, further reference to whom is made in another part of this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson are the parents of one child, a son, Thor

Anund. They are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works, also taking an active part in the general social affairs of the community, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the community.

JOHN CORNELIUSON.

Among the native-born Norwegians, who have come to the United States and engaged in general farming in Clay county, is John Corneliuson, owner of a well-kept farm of two hundred and ninety acres in Kurtz township. He was born in Oestre Toten, Norway, June 2, 1803, the second eldest child of Carl A. and Emilia Theolinia (Evenson) Corneliuson, also natives of that same country.

Carl Corneliuson, who was born in 1835, was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared to the life of a farmer in that country. He was united in marriage to Emilia Theolinia Evenson and, in 1885, he and his wife and family immigrated to America. On arriving in this country Carl Corneliuson came on out to Minnesota and settled in Clay county, where he resumed the life of a farmer. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in the same faith. There were nine of those children born to Carl Corneliuson and his wife, namely: Karen, John, Martinus, Maren, Even, Anton, Oluf, Clara and Olga, all of whom are alive, as are the parents.

John Corneliuson was educated in the schools of his native land and worked for some time at farm labor before coming to this country. In 1883 he decided to chance his fortune in this country, where so many of his compatriots had already established themselves. He came on to this state and settled in Clay county. He commenced to work on farms and saved his money with the view to acquire a holding of his own. After the lapse of about twenty years he was able to gratify his ambition and, in 1903, he bought his present place of two hundred and ninety acres of prime land near Moorhead, in Kurtz township, Clay county. He is actively engaged in general farming, devoting portion of his land to potatoes and corn and small grain, and has met with much success, and is now recognized as one of the substantial and prosperous farmers in this part of the county. He carried out several costly improvements on the farm and his outbuildings and dwelling are among the best in the county. His home is modern in every way and is equipped with a fine electric light plant.

On January 25, 1894, at St. Peter's church, Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota, John Corneliuson was united in marriage by Rev. O. Gulbranson, to Marie Petterson, also a native of Norway, and to that union the following children have been born: Carl, deceased; Egbert, Emilia, Matilda, Corine, Teckle, Charlotte, Carl, Theolinia and Lillian. Mrs. Corneliuson is a daughter of Petter Larson and Josephine Bergerson Haveloen, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1867, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa, eight miles east of Decorah. In 1875 they moved to Yellow Medicine county, Minnesota. He died when Mrs. Corneliuson was ten years of age. The mother now lives in Montevideo, Minnesota. The Corneliuson family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are earnest in their support of all its good works, as well as all community affairs having the well-being of the public for their purpose. Mr. Corneliuson is a warm advocate of the best township schools and was a member of the school board for some time, and in many other ways he lends his support to the interests of the community in public matters.

RHINEHART P. IDTSE.

Rhinehart P. Idtse, a well-known and energetic farmer, who has been a resident of Hegne township since the date of its organization for civic purposes, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since 1872 and of Norman county since 1878. He was born on November 15, 1840, a son of Peder and Anna Idtse, both of whom were born in Norway and there spent all their lives, respected and earnest members of the farming community in which they lived.

Rhinehart P. Idtse was educated in the schools of his native Norway and was reared on his father's farm, which was situated on an island one and one half miles east of Stavanga, the family being thus compelled to make their trips to market by boat. He helped in the labors of cultivating the land on this island farm until he was fifteen years of age, when he went to sea on a sailing vessel, beginning his life as a seafarer as a cook. He later became a sailor and was thus occupied until he came to America. At the age of twenty-three years, in 1872, he immigrated to the United States and on arrival in this country, proceeded on out to Fillmore county, Minnesota, and made that place his home until 1878, in which year he came to Norman county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hegne

township and has since lived there, one of the oldest residents in the locality. He commenced immediately to prepare the land for crops, meeting with success from the very beginning of his farming operations and has erected some fine buildings on the farm, his place being regarded as one of the best kept in the township. He is now the owner of two hundred and seventy-five acres of prime land and is engaged in general farming, his operations being carried on according to modern methods of agriculture.

In 1886 Rhinchart P. Idtse was united in marriage to Rachael Quam, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, a daughter of Thor Quam and wife. To this union have been born nine children, Anna, Marth, Dora, Ellen, Richard, Ruby, Fred and Constance, who are still living, and Feder T., who died at the age of one year. Mr. Idtse has been active in the affairs of his home community since the commencement of his residence in Norman county. He helped to organize Hegue township and has served as township supervisor and was a member of the first township board, to the duties of which he brought a ripe intelligence. He also helped to organize the first church in the neighborhood and in other ways he has given of his time and energies to the advancement of all good causes calculated to benefit the township and county.

ALEXANDER HOLDEN.

Alexander Holden, an honored veteran of the Civil War and one of the real pioneers of Norman county, now living retired at his pleasant home in Ada, is a native of the Emerald Isle, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age. He was born in the north of Ireland, June 24, 1844, son of Dr. Alexander and Margaret (Woodside) Holden, both natives of Ireland, who spent all their lives there. Dr. Alexander Holden was a college graduate and in addition to following the practice of medicine was a landowner and farmer.

At the age of ten years the junior Alexander Holden began clerking in a general store in the city of Belfast and was engaged there and in a bakery in that same city until he was eighteen years of age, when, in 1862, he came to the United States. The vessel on which he took passage struck a sandbar on the south side of Long Island, some miles from Sag Harbor, and went to pieces, but the passengers and crew were saved and young Holden finally landed safely at port. That was in May, 1862, and in July of the same year, in St. Lawrence county, New York, Alexander Holden, the Irish lad, less

than three months in this country, enlisted for service in the Union army as a private in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-second Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, and served valiantly with that command until the end of the war. Upon the completion of his military service Mr. Holden took up the carpenter trade at Rochester, Pennsylvania, and was thus engaged at that place and in the neighboring town of New Brighton for three or four years, at the end of which time he became employed as a pattern maker in the fire-brick factory of Barnes & Company, in the latter place, remaining there until 1870, when he returned to New York state, locating in Franklin county, where he remained until the spring of 1872, when he decided to try his fortunes in the great Northwest. By way of the Great Lakes to Duluth, Mr. Holden made his way to Minnesota and thence on out to Detroit, then the frontier of this section of the state. From there he pushed on west and located on a homestead tract on the west line of what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township, in Norman county, his nearest neighbor there being ten miles distant. Upon proving up his claim to that tract of one hundred and eighty-seven acres, Mr. Holden pre-empted an "eighty" in McDondaldsville township and after living there four or five years bought a half section in section 12 of that same township, adjoining his homestead tract and there, in 1878, established his home, farming there quite successfully for twenty-five years, at the end of which time he retired from the active labors of the farm and moved to Ada, where he built a comfortable home, where he now lives. In 1904, becoming dissatisfied with a life of inaction, Mr. Holden left Ada and went over to Mahanomen, where he engaged in the retail meat business and was thus engaged there until 1913, when he again retired and returned to Ada, where he since has made his home. Mr. Holden still retains the greater part of his old homestead place and the half section cornering the same and is quite well circumstanced. For years Mr. Holden took an active part in farmers' movements in this part of the state and during the days of the People's party movement was one of the local leaders in that party. During his residence in Mahanomen he was three times elected president of the council of that city, though never an aspirant for the office. During the early years of his residence here he was for three years carpenter for the Great Northern Railroad Company between Fisher's Landing and Barnesville, and while thus engaged did much to promote settlement out here, inducing many settlers to put in their fortunes with the pioneers of Norman county.

On January 10, 1867, Alexander Holden was united in marriage to Ada Jackson, who was born in Franklin county, New York, and to this union six

children have been born, Eva S., Agnes J., George, Lucretia, Ada and Glisa. Mr. and Mrs. Holden have a very pleasant home at Ada and take a proper interest in the general affairs of the city, interested in all local good works. Mr. Holden is an active member of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic and has for years taken a warm interest in the affairs of that patriotic organization. He also is a veteran member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and takes much interest in the affairs of that order.

MARTIN O. DAHLEN.

Martin O. Dahlen, a farmer of Tansem township, Clay county, was born in Norway, January 22, 1872, a son of Ole and Carrie (Englen) Dahlen, both also natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and spent their lives on a farm, both dying there many years ago. Four children were born to them, namely: Peter, who died in Norway; Gilbert, who also died in the old country; Martin O., the subject of this sketch, and Anna, whose death occurred in Norway.

Martin O. Dahlen spent his boyhood in his native land and there attended the common schools. When twenty years old, in 1892, he immigrated to the United States, coming directly to Minnesota, where he worked out as a farm hand in the neighborhood of Barnesville, Clay county, for about ten years. He saved his wages and in 1900 bought one hundred and sixty acres in Tansem township. The land had been only slightly improved and had no buildings on it except a granary. The following year he began active work on the place and has since resided on the same. He has brought it up to a fine state of cultivation and has built a comfortable residence and good out-buildings, fences, etc. He carries on general farming and stock raising. He is a stockholder in the Farmers' Elevator Company at Barnesville, which he helped organize. He also helped organize the Rollag Telephone Company and has been a stockholder in the same ever since.

Mr. Dahlen was married in Clay county, in 1901, to Carrie Johnson, who was born August 11, 1874, in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, this state, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Nels and Anna (Erickson) Johnson, natives of Norway, where they grew up and married and made their home until 1869, when they came to Minnesota. In 1870 they took up a homestead in Norwegian township, Otter Tail county, improving the land and establishing their future

home, spending the rest of their lives there, both dying in 1910, the father in August and the mother in January. To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were born five children: Alice, Carrie, Albert, Emma and Nettie, all of whom are living at this writing. Nels Johnson was an influential man in his township. He helped organize the Norwegian Lutheran church there and was a useful man in his neighborhood.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dahlen, namely: Cora, born in 1903; Melvin, 1907, and Nellie, 1909. Politically, Mr. Dahlen is a Republican. He has held the office of township supervisor for the past four years and is also a member of the township school board, which position he has held for a number of years. Mr. Dahlen has worked hard to get a start in the new world, and by perseverance has succeeded in becoming very comfortably established.

OLE T. AASEN.

Ole T. Aasen, one of the pioneer farmers of this section of the Red river valley and the owner of a fine farm and a comfortable home in Lee township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since 1870, having come here when about twenty-five years of age. He was born on November 17, 1845, and grew to manhood on a farm in his native land, receiving his schooling there and remaining in that country until 1870, in which year he came to the United States. His parents spent all their lives in Norway. They were the parents of six children, two sons and four daughters, all of whom are living save two. One of the daughters is a resident of Minnesota, living in Houston county.

In 1878 Ole T. Aasen decided to settle in the Red river valley. With that end in view he homesteaded a tract of eighty acres on the Dakota side of the Red river, across the river from his present home in Norman county, and after his marriage in 1881, established his home there, but later moved across the river to his present place of residence in Lee township, where he since has made his home. Mr. Aasen prospered in his farming operations and as he prospered added to his holdings until he became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres on the Dakota side of the river and three hundred and forty-five acres on this side of the river. The former tract he has divided among his children and continues to make his home on his Lee township tract, a fine farm of three hundred



MR. AND MRS. OLE T. AASEN.

and forty-five acres in section 13. Mr. Aasen not only has been a successful farmer, but he has found time to give his intelligent attention to various business enterprises in the neighborhood of his home. He was one of the organizers and a director of the company which established the "Famous" elevator at Perley and has shares also in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at that place. Mr. Aasen also has ever taken an interested part in the general civic affairs of the community and was for years a member of the local school board and treasurer of the same.

It was in May, 1881, at Fargo, that Ole T. Aasen was united in marriage to Mary Christinia Lein, who was born in Norway in 1853 and who was but four years of age when her parents came to this country, the family settling in Iowa, where she was reared and where she received her schooling. Her parents spent their last days in Iowa. They were the parents of seven children, of whom but three now survive. Mrs. Aasen has a sister living in the neighboring county of Becker. Mr. and Mrs. Aasen have six children, namely: Mrs. Clara Johnson, who lives in North Dakota; Theodore, who is married and also lives in North Dakota; Paulina, who is at home with her parents; Mrs. Christina Grady, who lives in North Dakota; Mrs. Matilda McMasters, who also lives in North Dakota, and Charles, who remains at home, taking practical charge of the home farm. The Aasens have a very pleasant home in Lee township and have ever taken an interested part in the community's general social activities, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

ASKILD T. BEKKERUS.

Among the native-born Norwegians who have come to America and who have become successful farmers, is Askild T. Bekkerus, who was born in the kingdom of Norway, but who has been living in this country since 1882. He is a son of Torjus and Ingeborg (Skriosen) Bekkerus, also natives of Norway, who were married in that country many years before immigrating to this country.

Torjus Bekkerus was born in Norway in 1821 and had been a farmer in that country before coming to the United States. His wife, Ingeborg Skriosen, was also born in Norway in 1837 and came to this country with her husband and other members of the family. She has been living

with her son, the subject of this sketch, since the death of her husband. Torjus Bekkerus left his native Norway in 1890 and on arriving in this country came on out to Minnesota and settled in Clay county. In 1896 he homesteaded a tract of land in section 18, Moland township, and here he and the other members of the family made their home. Mr. Bekkerus immediately proceeded to develop his land and presently had it under cultivation, and he came to be regarded as one of the go-a-head farmers of the district and he and his wife were among the active and influential residents of the township. Torjus Bekkerus died at the advanced age of eighty-seven years, his death occurring in 1908. To Torjus Bekkerus and wife the following children were born: Soren, who lives in Norway and is married; Dron, living at Grygla, Minnesota, also married; Signe, married and living at Webster, North Dakota; Halvor, married and living near Barnesville; Ole, married and living at Hurdsfield, North Dakota, and Askild T., the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Bekkerus were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and took a proper interest in the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they lived.

Askild T. Bekkerus, who was the first of his family to come to America, was educated in the schools of his native land and helped his father on the farm up to the time he immigrated to this country. He left Norway in 1882 and on arriving in this country he started for Minnesota and settled in Moland township, Clay county. He immediately began to work at farm labor and after the lapse of some time he had paved the way to acquire land and commence farming on his own account. His efforts have met with notable success and he is now the owner of three hundred and forty acres of prime land in section 18, Moland township, fifty acres of which are allotted to the cultivation of potatoes. His place is well improved and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive farmers of that section of the county. The machinery on the place for use in agricultural work is valued at two thousand five hundred dollars.

In March, 1883, Askild T. Bekkerus was united in marriage to Tone Kleven, who was born in Norway on February 12, 1858, and to this union the following children have been born: Sophia Geline, who died at the age of two years; Sophia, who married A. J. Mittgarden; Theodore, married and farming in Oakport township; Gilbert, who lives in the state of Montana; Edward, also in Montana; Tilda, Mabel, Alfred and William, the four latter being at home with their parents. The Bekkerus family are members of the Concordia Lutheran church and take a proper interest in

the affairs of the same, as well as in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the community. Mr. Bekkerus gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and is at present the chairman of the township board and also supervisor, and in these representative positions has given an excellent account of himself.

LARS A. BAKKEN.

Lars A. Bakken, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a compact and well-kept farm of two hundred and twenty acres of choice land in McDonaldsville township, Norman county, is a native of this same county, born on the farm on which he is now residing on January 3, 1883, a son of Ole A. and Ella (Ramstad) Bakken, both of whom are natives of the kingdom of Norway, but who have been residents of this country since the early seventies.

Ole A. Bakken immigrated from Norway in 1870 and on arriving in this country went out direct to Buffalo county, Wisconsin, and remained in that place for nine years and was married in that neighborhood in 1879. In the latter year he moved to Norman county and took a quarter section of land as a tree-claim and on this holding he still lives. He proved up on his claim as a homestead, and although he went to Becker county, this state, to work in the early years, his permanent home has been in Norman county. Mr. Bakken is engaged in general farming and since the very commencement of his agricultural operations he has met with more than average success, the work on the farm being carried on according to modern methods. He has put some excellent buildings and set out a fine grove on what was originally bare prairie, and purchased an additional eighty acres adjoining the first farm. His wife, who came to this country in 1873, is still living and both rendered valuable assistance in the work of organizing the Lutheran church at West Wild Rice, which was the first church of the community. The early structure was built of logs and this was replaced later by a more substantial building. Mr. Bakken also helped to organize the school district and in other ways has given of his time for the public good. He and his wife are the parents of three children, Emma, deceased; Lars A., the subject of this sketch, and Emma, deceased. The paternal grandparents were Andrew and Emma (Nyegaard) Bakken, who

were born in Norway and there spent all their lives, farming people. The maternal grandparents were Lars and Ella (Lynggy) Ramstad, who also were born in Norway and died in that country, and were of the farming community.

Lars A. Bakken was educated in the public schools of Norman county and later spent one year at Concordia college, Moorhead. He has been a valuable assistant to his father on the farm of the latter, up to the time he commenced farming on his own account. He is now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres of prime land on the home place and also manages his father's place, the two living together. Lars A. Bakken is engaged in general farming and is accounted one of the substantial farmers of this part of the township, ever alive to the most skillful methods of agricultural activity that prevail to help the farmer.

In January, 1904, Lars A. Bakken was united in marriage to Nellie Gilbertson, born in McDonaldsville township, a daughter of Thor Gilbertson and wife, further mention of whom is made in another part of this volume: Thor Gilbertson is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Bakken are the parents of the following children: Emma, Agnes, Wilfred, Alice, Thelma, Grace and Ruth. The Bakkens are members of the Lutheran church. Mr. Bakken is now and has been for the past five years a member of the township board and is and has been a member of the school board, giving earnest attention to the duties of these important positions.

OLAF C. OLSON.

Olaf C. Olson, a well-known farmer of Lee township, Norman county, where he operates a farm of five hundred and thirteen acres, which he owns with his sister, and a man closely affiliated with the business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Becker county, Minnesota, August 28, 1871, a son of Christian and Marie (Rask) Olson, both natives of Norway, who grew up in that country and there married in 1866. The former was born in 1844 and the latter on January 6, 1843. Soon after their marriage, Christian Olson and wife decided that they would permanently establish their home in America, and accordingly they set sail in the year of their marriage and landed in this country, June 23, 1866. Immediately they started westward to the new land and settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, remained there until 1870, when they drove up

into Minnesota with a team of oxen to claim a portion of the fine land which the government was opening up for settlement and in that year homestead one hundred and sixty acres in sections 18 and 19, Audubon township, Becker county. After years of prosperity on his farm the father added to his holdings until he acquired much land, which he later sold to his children. He was also closely connected with the business interests of Lake Park, Becker county, where he still lives. He helped to organize the Lutheran church and orphans' home and helped to organize the Becker County State Bank at Lake Park and is now president of the same. He was also an organizer of the creamery and of the farmers elevator at Lake Park and is still interested in them. To Christian Olson and wife the following children have been born: Christian, who lives in Lake Park, Becker county; Hannah, the wife of Peter Rutser, living in Crosby, North Dakota; Julia, who married O. W. Davis and lives two miles out from Lake Park, Minnesota; Olaf, the subject of this review; Josephine and Caroline, both deceased; Helen, who married Edward Ingebritson and is now living on the old homestead; George, also on the home place; Minnie, who is living with her parents, and four daughters and one son, deceased.

Olaf C. Olson was reared on the old home farm in Becker county, and there attended the public schools. Later he supplemented his elementary education by courses in the academy and at Concordia College at Moorhead. He then remained on the old homestead, lending his assistance to the development of his father's holdings until 1891, in which year he came to Lee township, Norman county, to care for the farm there which belonged to his father. When the latter sold his land to his children, Mr. Olson and his sister, Mrs. Peter Rutser, bought this farm, which has been so extended under the careful management of the former that it now comprises five hundred and thirteen acres of fertile and well-improved farming land, which lies in sections 24, 12, 13 and 20. Here Mr. Olson carries on general diversified farming and stock raising, having on his place at this time forty-five head of high-grade cattle and one registered bull.

On January 21, 1915, Mr. Olson was married to Dorothy Otila Schow, who was born in Cass county, North Dakota, August 12, 1877, a daughter of Martin and Dortha L. (Bjerke) Schow. Mrs. Olson died on November 4, 1915. To that union two children were born, twins, Dorothy Marie and Hulda Charlotte. Mr. Olson, as was his wife, is a member of the Lutheran church, of which he at this time is a trustee. Politically, he is a member of the Prohibition party, in the affairs of which he takes a deep interest. For sixteen years he has been a member of the township board

of supervisors, nine years chairman of the same, and has always discharged his duties in a manner befitting the upright man that he is, and with complete satisfaction to his neighbors. Mr. Olson is also closely connected with the local co-operative business interests of his community, being a director of the creamery company at Perley, of which he was at first president and secretary.

GEORGE J. V. MAYER.

Among the young business men of Lockhart, Norman county, Minnesota, who have met with success and are known as among the prominent and highly respected people of the town, is George J. V. Mayer, a well-known grain buyer, who was born in Logan county, Illinois, in the year 1890 and is the son of George and Louisa (Unger) Mayer, who were born in Germany, and who had come to America during childhood with their respective parents. After his marriage George Mayer remained in Illinois until 1904. He had early entered into the spirit and life of his new surroundings and he and his wife were identified with the social, civic and religious affairs of their Illinois home. Mr. Mayer identified himself with the Republican party and became an influential member of the county central committee, in which position he rendered efficient service. He was elected road commissioner for his district and his ability in this line of endeavor was of much value to the district in which he lived. Roads were built and improved in a manner in keeping with his high regard for his duty to the people and his ability in this line of public service. He also was for some years village alderman and likewise rendered good service as a member of the local school board, a position for which he was well suited, owing to his education and training.

On leaving their home in the state of Illinois, the Mayer family came to Minnesota and here George Mayer operated the Lockhart farm in Norman county, until the year 1912, when he moved to the farm where he now lives, two miles west of Ada, where he is still engaged in general farming and stockraising with success. He is progressive and a firm believer in thorough cultivation of the soil and the keeping of good stock, and is today recognized as one of the substantial and successful men of the county. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran church and are known as among the most highly respected people in the district. They are the parents of the following children: Maria, Dora, George J. V., Lucia, Gertrude, Ethel, John, Clyde, Agnes and Sadie. Mr. and Mrs. Mayer have long been mem-

bers of the Lutheran church and are prominent and active in the work of that denomination.

George J. V. Mayer received his education in the schools of Illinois and was reared in the family home. In 1904 he came, with his parents, to Minnesota and later engaged in general farming five miles east of Lockhart, where he remained for a time, after which he moved to a farm west of Ada, where he continued to engage successfully in agricultural work until January 1, 1916, at which time he became manager of the J. S. Cuisick elevator at Lockhart, which position he is still filling with entire satisfaction. Being a young man of excellent judgment and possessed of ability and integrity, he has won the confidence of his employer and the community in general.

In 1912 George J. V. Mayer was united in marriage to Wilhelmina Kreun, who was born and reared in Norman county, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Kreun, who are well known and highly respected people of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Mayer are among the prominent and popular young people of their home town and take a proper part in the social life of the community.

CHARLES M. AAGAARD.

Charles M. Aagaard, a well-known farmer and stock raiser of Hendrum township, Norman county, and organizer and director in the progressive enterprises of the community, was born in Norway, April 28, 1862, the son of Carl and Johannah Aagaard, both natives of Norway where they grew up and were married. Soon after the birth of Charles M., the mother died, and later the father married again, and he with his family left the land of their nativity, came to America, and settled on a farm in Allamakee county, Iowa, in 1866, where his second wife died. After farming in Iowa for fourteen years, the family came northward into Minnesota, in 1880, and settled in Polk county, where Carl Aagaard took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of the wild prairie land, and remained there until his death on August 22, 1895. By his first wife he had nine children, namely: Albert, John, Mattie, Olena, Gustava, Johanas, Stenus, Lewis and Charles M.; and to the second union was born one child, Johannah. The Aagaard family were devoted members of the Lutheran church, the father having helped to organize the first church and the first school in his community in Polk county, Charles M. Aagaard helping to haul the lumber for each building from Crookston.

Charles M. Aagaard was four years of age when he settled with his parents in Iowa, and later came with them to Polk county, Minnesota, living on the old home place until March 15, 1907. At that time he moved down into Norman county and purchased two hundred and forty-six acres in Hendrum township, which he has since improved by the erection of a fine barn and granary. Mr. Aagaard is a very successful grain farmer, and in addition to this line of agriculture is a breeder of a good grade of Short-horn cattle and thoroughbred Duroc-Jersey hogs.

On June 8, 1887, Charles M. Aagaard was united in marriage to Elizabeth Christianson, who was born in Norway on March 30, 1863, the daughter of Christianson and Ellen (Jacobson) Christianson, both natives of Norway, where they married, lived and died. Mr. and Mrs. Aagaard are the parents of five children, all of whom are living: Johannah, Alfred, Ella, Josephine and Alvin. The family are devout Christians, being active and consistent members of the Lutheran church.

While Mr. Aagaard lived in Polk county he served as member of the board in the township in which he lived. Later, when he came to Norman county, he as a progressive farmer, became interested in better facilities for the marketing of agricultural and dairy products and helped to reorganize the Farmers Elevator Company at Hendrum, of which at this time he is a director; and he also has an interest in the creamery at Hendrum. No community is complete without adequate credit facilities and especially is this true in an agricultural section, and Mr. Aagaard, who is a wide-awake farmer, helped to organize the Farmers State Bank and is a director of the same.

CARL J. STORDAHL.

Carl J. Stordahl, a well-to-do farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county, where he owns three hundred and thirty-nine acres of improved land, and pioneer of Hendrum township, was born in Norway, April 29, 1853, the son of John O. and Janetta (Beckadahl) Strodahl, both natives of Norway, where they were reared and married. In 1875 the family decided to leave the land of their birth and cross the Atlantic to the land of opportunity; accordingly, in the year mentioned above, they immigrated to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained two years. Hearing that the land in the Red river valley was being opened to settlement, the family left their temporary home in Fillmore county and traveled north-



MR. AND MRS. CARL J. STORPALL.

ward in a covered wagon, drawn by a yoke of oxen. They arrived in Norman county, after a journey of three weeks and one day, with the other settlers of the party, and the elder Stordahl took a homestead in the same year where the Pontopidan church now stands, a quarter section of Hendrum township land, where he and his wife remained until his death about 1907. The wife had passed away in 1895.

John O. Stordahl was deeply imbued with the spirit of industry and he immediately began to improve his holding by planting a grove and erecting substantial farm buildings. He also had time to enter into the activities of the neighborhood, for he helped to organize Hendrum township, along with his son, Carl J., the subject of this review. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, namely: Lewis; Conrad, deceased; Ole, who did not come to America with the rest of the family and died in Norway; Anna, Carl J., Jens (deceased), Peter, who died after coming to this country, and Christina. The elder Stordahl, as was his family, was a devoted member of the Lutheran church, and performed a valuable service in the establishment of that denomination in Hendrum township, for he helped to organize the Pontopidan Lutheran church, the site of which he donated to the society.

Carl J. Stordahl, who was educated in the common schools of Norway, came to America with his parents when he was twenty-four years of age and settled with the family in Norman county. Losing no time after he arrived in these parts, he took a homestead, in 1877, the northwest quarter of section 28 in what later came to be organized as Hendrum township, and lived there until 1897. During his residence on the homestead he improved the same by erecting buildings and planting a grove. After twenty years of industry in bringing his farm up to an excellent state of improvement, he built his comfortable home across the road in section 29, where he has since lived. As the years went on he had the opportunity to extend his holdings until now he is the owner of three hundred and thirty-nine acres of well-improved land, which includes all his homestead except what he gave as a cemetery for the Pontopidan church.

Mr. Stordahl has, during his residence in the township, ever been actively engaged in furthering the civil and business interests of the community. As was stated before, he was one of the organizers of Hendrum township, on the board of which he served for a number of years, and is now serving his neighbors in the capacity of township treasurer. He has also been actively engaged in furthering the educational progress of the

township, having served as school clerk for twelve years and having helped to organize school district No. 40. Mr. Stordahl was one of the organizers of the creamery, the Farmers Elevator and the Farmers State Bank at Hendrum.

On April 9, 1883, in Hendrum township, Norman county, Carl J. Stordahl was united in marriage to Hansene Nygaard, who also was born in the kingdom of Norway and who had come to this country with her parents, Peter and Eunetta (Moen) Nygaard, both natives of Norway, the family arriving in 1882. Three years before the father had come to Minnesota and had bought a tract of land in Norman county, where he made preliminary preparation for the coming of his family and had then gone back to Norway and had brought his family here, establishing his home on his new possessions. Peter Nygaard was trained as a carpenter in his native land and even after coming to this state did much carpenter work, in addition to carrying on his farming operations. He is still living, now making his home with his son in Halstad township. His wife died in February, 1915. They were the parents of eight children, seven of whom are still living. To Mr. and Mrs. Stordahl nine children have been born, namely: John O., who is cashier of the State Bank of Shelly; Joseph, who, since he was ten years of age had been working for G. T. Ingberg and others at Hendrum and who recently moved with his family to Montana; Gilma, wife of Halvor Skagy, cashier of the State Bank at Tyler, North Dakota; Olga, wife of Anton Opgrand, a merchant at Halstad; Cora, who is engaged as a professional nurse at Bismarek; Hilda Josephine, who is at home, and Arthur, Victor and Eddie, also at home.

PETER AMBUEL.

The little mountain republic of Switzerland was the native land of many of the sturdiest settlers who have come to this country to establish their homes in a larger democracy, and among these is Peter Ambuel, a prosperous farmer living in Mary township, Norman county, and the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of fine farming land, two hundred acres of which lies in Mary township, forty in Wild Rice and one hundred and eighty in Hegne township. He was born on October 3, 1854, a son of David and Vema (Held) Ambuel, both of whom came to America, bringing their family with them, and settled in Wisconsin. For a number of

years the former lived in Wisconsin, but he sold his holdings there when he came out to Norman county, Minnesota, where he made his home with his son, Peter, the subject of this review. The father's death occurred about eleven years ago, after he had reached the ripe old age of eighty-three years, a substantial and valuable pioneer of the great Northwest. After the death of David Ambuel, the mother then went to live with her daughter in North Dakota, where her death occurred in 1912, when she was eighty-four years of age. To these parents were born five children; those besides the subject of this sketch, who is the second in order of birth, being: John L., living in Borup, Norman county; Davie, single; Martin, married and living in Polk county, Minnesota; Paul, married and a farmer in North Dakota; Anna, the wife of Henry Puhler, living in North Dakota, and Lizzie, who married August Netting and is also living in North Dakota.

Peter Ambuel was reared in the old home in his native land of Switzerland, and when he was but seventeen years of age accompanied his parents to the new world. Here he settled with the family in Wisconsin, where he gave of his time and his best effort to the development of the farm which his father acquired in that state until 1879. In that year after he had reached the age of twenty-five years, he left the parental roof and went westward into Minnesota, settling in Norman county. Immediately after he arrived in these parts, he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Mary township. Since the land was all new and uncultivated, his Swiss thrift and industry stood him in good stead in adding the needed improvements to his holding. In the plowing he used oxen for one year, but now he uses the most recently improved farming machinery in his agricultural operations; is remodeling the old farm house and is replacing all the original buildings by modern, substantial new ones. Mr. Ambuel has been so successful in his farming that he has been enabled at various times to add to his holdings until they now comprise four hundred and twenty acres of as good farming land as can be found in the county.

On December 17, 1882, Mr. Ambuel returned to Wisconsin to claim as his bride Barbara Engel, who was born in Wisconsin, September 28, 1858, a daughter of Anton and Christain (Weber) Engel, both of whom are now dead, the former having been a landowner and farmer in that state. To Mr. and Mrs. Ambuel nine children have been born, namely: Christina, deceased; Verena, the wife of George Shaffer, who lives one mile east of the old home place; David, who is married; Anna, deceased; Anton, at home; Lizzie, deceased, and Lizzie, Martin and Arthur, at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Ambuel are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and according to the precepts of this denomination they have reared their children. Politically, Mr. Ambuel is independent. Despite his very busy life on the farm, he has had time to devote some of his energies to the civic affairs of the community, and has served as township supervisor for a number of years.

JOHAN MATHIAS MALME.

Johan Mathias Malme, a well-known and substantial farmer of Halstad township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and ninety acres, was born in Romsdalen, Norway, on September 11, 1862, a son of Knut Olson and Ellen Arnesdatter (Malme) Malme. Both of the parents were born on the Malme farm, near the point that later was the birthplace of their son, Johan, in Norway, and there they grew to maturity, married and reared their family. The mother died in Norway, and the father, wishing to spend the rest of his days among his children in the New World, came to America in 1903 and made his home with his son, Johan, until his death occurred in 1915. Knut and Ellen Malme were the parents of nine children, namely: Ole, who has remained living in his native Norway, in Trondjhem; Andreas and Gertina, who are dead; Johan M., the subject of this review; Berit Martha, who still lives in From, Romsdalen, Norway; Karen, Knut A. and Carl, all living in Norman county, Minnesota; and Karen, who is deceased.

Until he was twenty-five years of age, Johan Mathias Malme remained on the old home place in Romsdalen, Norway, where he acquired a common-school education and later attended an educational institution equivalent to the American high school for six months. During this time he learned the carpenter's trade, which stood him in good stead when he came to this country. The fact that so many of his countrymen had come to Minnesota and had here become comfortably situated, induced in him the desire to follow them, and in 1887 he came. In the latter part of February of the year of his arrival he located in Ada, the county seat of Norman county, and there began working at the carpenter trade. Three years later, in 1890, Mr. Malme, in partnership with Knut Strain, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land which was not very well improved, since the tract had on it only a log house and a small grove of poplar and willow trees, but they began to improve the holding. In 1892, Mr. Malme bought his partner's

interest, and since then has extended the borders of his farm until it comprises two hundred and ninety acres of well-cultivated land, on which he has raised excellent buildings and to which he has added the modern equipment of a farm plant. As a side line to his agricultural activities, Mr. Malme has been operating a threshing outfit. All the prosperity which Mr. Malme has enjoyed here, has not made him forget his old friends and relatives in distant Norway, and to which he has made three voyages back to his old home, one in 1890, one in 1912 and another in 1914, just before the outbreak of the World War.

On December 30, 1890, Johan M. Malme was united in marriage to Berit Anna Aura, who was born in Norway on August 17, 1870, the daughter of Ole Anderson and Karen Sande, and to this union five children have been born, namely: Emma, who married Stanley Holte, and has four children, three of whom are Ayla, Eunice and Morlan, and Alga, Charles, Clara and Arthur. Mr. and Mrs. Malme are devoted members of the Augustana Norwegian Lutheran church, in the faith of which denomination they have reared their children.

Mr. Malme is a staunch Republican and has for seven or eight years served as township treasurer. In the co-operative agencies of his community Mr. Malme has evinced his great interest by helping to organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Halstad.

JOHN W. JACKSON.

Among the well-known and prominent residents and business men of Lockhart, Norman county, is John W. Jackson, who was born in the state of Illinois on March 13, 1868, the son of Andrew and Lydia (Cooper) Jackson, natives of England and of the state of New York, respectively. They in time located in Illinois, where they resided on a farm until 1882, in which year they decided to locate in the state of Iowa, where they felt that they would have a better opportunity to make a home for themselves and those dependent on them. On their arrival in the state of Iowa they purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land in Webster county, and there they established their home amid pioneer conditions. A house was erected and there the parents felt that they were to make a home in a new land. The farm was later developed and improved and in time became an ideal country home. Mr. Jackson met with much success in his ven-

ture, and engaged in general farming and stockraising for many years, at the end of which time he retired to Cass, Lake county, Iowa, later going to Baker City, Washington, where he died. His wife died some years later at Lake View, Iowa. They were a most excellent couple and had much to do with the physical development of the territory in which they had settled as pioneers. During their time and with their assistance, the wild plains and wooded tract were transformed into blooming fields of golden grain, with splendid homes and thriving villages. Schools and churches were established, roads built and improved and the moral and social conditions raised to a high standard. To those people who, as did Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, enter into the precincts of the forest or scan the wild prairie for a home, and by their efforts and a life of hardship, transform all into one of the finest farming districts of the United States, is due all the honor and praise of the present generation. To them the state and the nation owe a lasting debt of gratitude for the noble work that they have done. Their life was not an easy one, and well did they know that to them would not come the fullest measure of success. Their greatness is demonstrated by the fact that they knew that they were building and preparing for a future generation.

John W. Jackson, one of a family of six children, received his education in the schools of the states of Illinois and Iowa. He grew to manhood on the home farm, where during his life as a lad and young man he worked as a farmer. On reaching manhood he entered the livery business at Gowrie, Iowa, where he remained for two years, after which he retired from the livery business and for the next two years lived in Pipestone county, Minnesota, where he worked on a large horse farm. He then returned to Gowrie, Iowa, where he ran a dray for two years, after which he engaged in general farming in Noble county, Minnesota, and operated a hotel for five years. He then came to Norman county, where he engaged in general farming for twelve years, after which he established a livery and garage at Lockhart, in connection with the hotel business, where he has met with much success.

On December 29, 1888, John W. Jackson was united in marriage to Mary DeLong, a woman of high ideals and one who is held in the highest regard by her many friends. To this union two children have been born, Glenn and Brant. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson are active members of the Presbyterian church and are prominent in the activities of the town. They have long been prominent in the social, civic and business affairs of the place. Mr. Jackson is a business man of ability. His genial disposition and

pleasing address have made for him many friends among his business associates. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and of the Modern Woodmen of America, in the affairs of both of which orders he takes a keen interest. His life has been a busy one and he is known as one of the hustlers of his home town.

HALVOR BEKKERUS.

Halvor Bekkerus, a substantial and progressive farmer, living in Humboldt township, Clay county, owner of a fine tract of two hundred acres of choice land in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty years old. He was born on September 23, 1866, a son of Torjus and Ingeborg (Sorenson) Bekkerus, who came to America some years after their son.

Torjus Bekkerus was educated in the schools of Norway and was married in that country, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. On his arrival in America he came on out to Minnesota and settled in Moland township, Clay county, and about 1905 he took a homestead claim of eighty acres—the last homestead tract that was open for entry. On this holding he commenced the active life of a farmer and made a success of his labors, being recognized as one of the best small landholders in the vicinity. Torjus Bekkerus died about 1907 in Clay county and his widow still lives in Moland township. They were the parents of six children, namely: Soren, living in Norway, originally a mechanic, now a farmer; Drang, of Marshall county, Minnesota; A. T., of Moland township; Sena, living at Devil's Lake, North Dakota; Halvor, the subject of this sketch, and Ole, living in Herdsville, North Dakota. Torjus Bekkerus and wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the same faith.

Halvor Bekkerus was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's place. At the age of twenty, in 1886, he decided to try his fortune in America and left Norway in that year. He came to Minnesota and commenced to work on farms in the Glyndon neighborhood; he took up carpentry work, which he had partly learned in the old country, and followed that trade for about ten years in the vicinity of Glyndon. Mr. Bekkerus then bought a quarter section of land in Humboldt township, and has lived there ever since, engaged in general farming, and has added to his holding until he is now the owner of two hundred acres of excellent land. He

has carried out many valuable improvements on his place, including a well-laid-out grove, and also operates a small apple orchard.

In 1896 Halvor Bekkerus was united in marriage to Karen Arntson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Arnt and Karen (Sletten) Hanson, natives of that country, who immigrated to Minnesota in 1883 and located in Tansem township, Clay county. Arnt Hanson bought a tract of land and farmed during the remainder of his active life, his death occurring in 1914, and his widow is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. They were the parents of six children, namely: Theodore, who is living in Tansem township; Rundena, deceased; Hooken, deceased; Karen, wife of Halvor Bekkerus; Anna, deceased, and Knut, deceased. To the union of Halvor and Karen (Arntson) Bekkerus the following children have been born: Albert, Hilbert, Inge, Rudolph, Clara, Hilda and William. Mr. Bekkerus has always given much attention to public affairs and by appointment has filled the position of township chairman to finish an unexpired term. He is interested in the cause of education and was a member of the local school board for nine years, and in many other ways he has given of his time and talents to movements intended to benefit the community at large.

W. E. CASSELMAN.

W. E. Casselman, one of the real pioneers of Norman county and one of the most extensive landowners hereabout, has been a witness to the development of this section since the days of the very beginning of its settlement. He was the first permanent settler in Spring Creek township and upon the organization of that township was elected clerk of the same, his wife being elected treasurer of the school district in which they lived upon its organization and continuing to serve in that capacity as long as they remained there. Mr. Casselman broke the first furrow turned in Spring Creek township and his first-born child was the first white child born in that township. From the time of the organization of the township until he left the farm he was continually in public office, having served his township in various capacities, and did much to develop the interests of that part of the county. Since the day he filed a pre-emption claim to a tract of land in what later was organized as Norman county, back in 1879, Mr. Casselman has been successful in his operations and is now the owner of eleven hundred acres of land, long having been regarded as one of the



MR. AND MRS. W. E. CASSELMAN.

most substantial citizens of this part of the state. He is now living retired from the active labors of the farm and he and his wife are very comfortably situated in their pleasant home at Ada.

Though born and reared in the old Keystone state, W. E. Casselman has been a resident of the Northwest since the days of his young manhood. He was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, November 15, 1856, son of Daniel T. and Harriet (Durfee) Casselman, the former a native of the state of New York and the latter of Pennsylvania. Daniel T. Casselman was a son of Jonas Casselman, who was a soldier during the War of 1812 and who many years later left his family in the East and started for Wisconsin on a prospecting trip. He started his journey by way of the Great Lakes and never again was heard from by his family, the presumption being that he was lost on the lakes. His wife, who was born Sarah Horn, spent her last days on the old home farm in New York. Daniel T. Casselman was a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, serving in a Pennsylvania regiment, and for some time during that service was confined in a Rebel prison pen. Some time after the war he came up into the Northwest and located in Dane county, Wisconsin, but presently returned to Pennsylvania and spent his last days at his home in Crawford county, that state. His widow is now making her home, at a ripe old age, at Farmington, in Whitman county, Washington. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Frank, Percy E., Alice, Otis Leonard (deceased), Herman (deceased), Bessie, Jessie, Edna (deceased), and Mary (deceased).

Reared on the paternal farm in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, W. E. Casselman received his schooling in the local schools there and remained at home until he was twenty years of age when he went to Wisconsin and remained there, farming in Dane and Portage counties, until the spring of 1879, when he came over into Minnesota and proceeded on out to this part of the state with a view to pre-empting a farm site. That was before Norman county had been organized as a civic entity, but the prospects for settlement out in this section of the state were then very encouraging and Mr. Casselman came on out to this section and filed a pre-emption claim to a quarter of a section in what later was organized as Spring Creek township, in Norman county. In the spring of 1881 he married and in that same spring filed on the northwest quarter of section 30 as a tree claim, walking the fifteen miles to John Wright's place, Wright then being the only notary in these parts, to file his claim. He did not "prove up" on

his tree claim, but instead filed on the same as a homestead and on that half section established his home, he and his wife remaining there until their retirement from the farm and removal to Ada on January 7, 1914. As noted above, Mr. Casselman was the first settler in Spring Creek township and his was the first farm put under the plow. He took an active part in the organization of the township when settlers had arrived in sufficient numbers to effect an organization and was elected first clerk of the township, a position he held for twenty years. He was later elected to other offices of trust and responsibility in the township and was a continuous office-holder there from the time of the township's organization until his removal from the farm. When the school district was organized Mrs. Casselman was elected treasurer of the same and held that position until she left the farm, her daughter-in-law now holding the position. In addition to his general farming Mr. Casselman early began to give his attention to the raising of cattle and horses and as he prospered in his undertakings added to his land holdings until now, as noted above, he is the owner of eleven hundred acres of excellent land.

It was on March 30, 1881, a couple of years after coming to this section, that W. E. Casselman was united in marriage to Laura Bullock, who was born and reared on a farm in Dane county, Wisconsin, daughter of William and Nancy (Bacon) Bullock, pioneers of that county, whose last days were spent at Ada, and to this union six children have been born, namely: Edna, the first white child born in Spring Creek township, who married Roy Nichols and is now deceased; Carrie, who died unmarried at the age of thirty-two years; Harold and Roy, who are carrying on the operations of the home farm; Lulu, who is a trained nurse, and Ruth, who is at home with her parents. Mr. Casselman is a Mason, a member of the lodge of that ancient order at Ada, and is a member of the local lodge of Modern Woodmen of America, in the affairs of both of which organizations he takes a warm interest.

ANDREW AANENSON.

Andrew Aanenson, a well-to-do farmer of Shelly township, Norman county, where he owns three hundred sixteen acres of well-tilled and well-improved land, was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, February 6, 1881, a son of Soren and Martha (Peterson) Aanenson. The parents were both natives of Norway, who came to Minnesota one year before the birth of

their son, Andrew, and located at once in Fillmore county, where they remained until their deaths, substantial farmers and excellent citizens of their neighborhood. They were the parents of five children, those besides the subject of this review, who was the first-born, being Bertha, Cecelia (who died young), Peter and Elias.

Andrew Aanenson spent his boyhood days on the old home farm in Fillmore county, and, as he approached manhood, gave valuable aid in the development and improvement of his father's holdings in this new land. His parents, who readily understood the value of education, saw to it that their children enjoyed the advantage of the schools of their neighborhood, and after young Andrew had finished the elementary schools of the community, he was sent to the high school at Preston, Minnesota. Later he wished to supplement his primary and secondary training by a course in a higher institution of learning, and accordingly entered the Decorah (Iowa) Institute. Feeling that he could find his career successful in the tilling of the soil, he came to Norman county and here bought a part of the farm on which he makes his home at present. As the years passed and prosperity smiled upon his efforts, he was enabled to extend his holdings from time to time and now is the proprietor of three hundred and sixteen acres of well-tilled farming land, on which he has placed all the modern improvements that are the characteristics of a well-appointed farm plant.

On December 21, 1891, Andrew Aanenson married Lettie Sharpe, who is a native of Norway, born on September 10, 1870, a daughter of Peter P. and Bertha (Grosfield) Sharpe. Her parents, too, were natives of Norway and there the father died. The widowed mother, with the rest of her family, accompanied her son, Tollef, to America in 1871. The family first located in Vernon county, Wisconsin, where they remained until 1876, and in the autumn of the following year, came to Minnesota. In the spring of 1877, Tollef Sharpe homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 30, range 48, Shelly township, Norman county, where the mother lived until her death in 1891. To Peter and Bertha Sharpe were born seven children, namely: Jacob, Carrie (deceased), Sarah, Tollef, who is a farmer in Shelly township; Peter, Lettie, the wife of Andrew Aanenson, the subject of this review, and Bertha, who died at the early age of fourteen years. To Mr. and Mrs. Aanenson eleven children have been born, of whom Mabel, Mabel, May and Sophia are deceased; those living being Bella, Tilda, Arnold, Richard, Esther, Henry and Alice. Mr. and Mrs. Aanenson are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in the creed of this denomination they have reared their children.

In the business and civil affairs of the community, Mr. Aanenson has been and is quite active. He helped to organize the Farmers Elevator Company and the local creamery company at Shelly, and since their organization he has been secretary of the former and a director of the latter. He has also served his township as justice of the peace, as clerk and as supervisor. In politics, Mr. Aanenson is a staunch advocate of Republican principles, and in the affairs of his political party he takes a deep interest.

AUGUST GERMOLUS.

A progressive farmer of Mary township, Norman county, where he owns a quarter section of well-improved and scientifically cultivated land, is August Germolus, who was born in Germany, January 15, 1878, a son of John and Emelia (Oshwald) Germolus, natives of Germany, who came to this country in 1883, bringing their family with them, and located at Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, on March 18 of that year. Soon after the family arrived at Ada the father bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 24, Mary township, Norman county, for seventeen hundred dollars. The tract was all wild land, but with his characteristic thrift he set about improving the holding, which is now worth about ten thousand dollars. In the early years of his residence on the home place the father used from four to eight oxen as draft animals. He gave his whole attention to the improvement of his farm, where he carried on general farming and stock raising, and gave little time to politics. The mother, who was born on June 10, 1850, now lives on the old home place. Both the father and mother remained on their original farm until November 13, 1913, when they moved to Patterson, California, where they were the owners of an improved farm of twenty acres. There the former died on April 10, 1915, and in the August of the following year, the latter returned to the old home place where she still resides. Mr. and Mrs. John Germolus were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first born, the others being: Samuel, who is married and is living in California; Herman, married and living at Twin Valley, Minnesota; Fred, who lives in North Dakota with his sister, Augusta; Augusta, the wife of Herman Milbrath, living in North Dakota; Frank, married and living in California, and Lydia, the wife of Rudolph Kurpjuweit.

August Germolus was only five years old when his parents brought him to America and settled in Norman county, where he received his elementary education in the public schools. Reared on the old home farm, to the improvement of which he gave his best effort, Mr. Germolus received a very valuable training in agriculture, which he found very useful when he started out on his own account, in 1903, on the farm of one hundred and sixty acres, south of the old home place, which his father had bought in 1894. In 1903, when he began an independent career, Mr. Germolus purchased this farm from his father, and has since lived there, making all the improvements. Now he has one of the best-equipped farm plants in his neighborhood. In addition to his farming interests, he has been active in local business affairs and now holds shares in a potato warehouse and a packing plant at Fargo.

On June 24, 1906, August Germolus was united in marriage to Amalia Kurpujuweit, a native of Germany, born on February 7, 1886, and who came to America when she was twenty years of age with her brother, Fred, who now lives in Canada. She is a daughter of Gotfried and Amalie (Siedelmann) Kurpujuweit, who were both natives of Germany, the former being a farmer and dying in the land of his nativity ten years ago. The mother now lives with her daughter, the wife of the subject of this review, at the age of seventy-two years. Mrs. Germolus has also another brother in America, Rudolph, who married Lydia, a sister of August Germolus, and is now living on his farm in Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Germolus are the parents of six children, Gustav, Edna, Albert, Emil, Clara and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Germolus are members of the Methodist church and in the faith of this denomination they are rearing their children. In politics, Mr. Germolus is independent and has never sought public office.

ADOLF ANDERSON.

Farming has been considered a game of chance too long and the uncertainties of the elements have been overcome to such an extent by intelligent study and use of fertilizers, irrigation and drainage, also by intensive cultivation, that day by day agriculture is becoming more and more an exact science. One of the leading farmers of Tansum township, Clay county, is Adolf Anderson, who was born in Norway, October 23, 1868, a son of Anders and Karen (Arnesdatter) Tommeson, both born in Norway, where

they grew to maturity, married and established their home. There the father died, after which the mother was again married, her last husband being Andrew Eliason. They came to Minnesota in 1878, and located in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county, among the pioneers of that community. They came by train to Barnesville. There was no railroad station there at the time, only a platform. The only hotel in the village could not accommodate them, so they spent their first night there in a store. They went on to Otter Tail county overland and took up a homestead on which they lived about three years, then bought railroad land in section 35, Tansem township, Clay county, where Andrew Eliason still lives, now owning an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres. The mother of the subject of this sketch died there in 1914. Her only child by her first marriage was Adolf, whose name introduces this review. By her second marriage she was the mother of seven children, four sons and three daughters. Of these daughters, but one, Mrs. Sam Norton, of Norwegian Grove, is now living. Of the sons, Charles, Ole and Axel are living in Canada and John, who was for some time located in Montana, is now living with his father in Clay county.

Adolf Anderson was ten years old when his mother and stepfather brought him to America. He received some schooling in his native land, and later attended the district schools in Tansem township, Clay county. He worked on the homestead there and as a young man worked on a big ranch near Hillsboro, North Dakota, for seven years. He then returned to Clay county and located on the farm he now occupies in Tansem township. The place consisted of two hundred and eighty acres in section 1, Tansem township. He later added another eighty acres, making his farm now three-fourths of a mile square. It is under a fine state of cultivation and improvement. He has erected a large modern barn and remodeled the other buildings. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He farms on an extensive scale, shipping a large amount of grain and a good deal of live stock to the markets annually. He was one of the first settlers in the northern part of Tansem township, which he has been instrumental in developing, having taken an active interest in the general affairs of his locality from the first.

Mr. Anderson has been twice married; first, in 1899, to Aleda Thorson, of Parke township, Clay county, and to that union six children were born, four of whom are still living, namely: Clara Alphena, Alma Gurene, Ole Rudolph and Albert Arnold. Two sons, Carl and Edwin Arnold, are deceased. In 1911 Mr. Anderson married Petra Josephine Egge, a native

of Tansem township, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Erik J. Egge, who located in Tansem township in 1887. He now lives in Skree township, but owns land on both sides of the township line. A biographical sketch of Mr. Egge appears elsewhere in this volume. Four children have been born to Mr. Anderson and his second wife, namely: Carl Melvin, Elmer Oliver, Emma Josephine and Hilda Annette, all of whom are living. The Andersons belong to the Rollag Lutheran church and give proper attention to the neighborhood good works.

ADOLPH BJORNDAHL.

No matter what line of work one is engaged in he should strive to become an expert in it, which will not only result in better remuneration but a greater degree of satisfaction and pleasure all around. If one goes at his work in a half-hearted, slipshod manner very little good will be accomplished and little satisfaction gotten out of it. In fact, it is not too much to say that poor work should never be done, for it is very often worse than nothing—detrimental. Adolph Bjorndahl, one of the enterprising young farmers of Parke township, Clay county, realized these facts when he started out in life for himself, and he has tried to do well whatever he undertook.

Mr. Bjorndahl was born on the farm where he still resides, in section 6, Parke township, Clay county, in 1880, and he has been contented to spend his life at home, fully appreciating the opportunity. He is a son of Nels and Torgen (Ulvig) Bjorndahl, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, were married and established their home, continuing to reside there until the spring of 1878, when they immigrated to the United States, and came to Minnesota, presently locating on and homesteading the farm where their son Adolph now lives in Parke township, Clay county. They had lived a short time on another place nearby upon their arrival here. The father worked hard in developing the raw land and in making a home for his family in the Western frontier and, by perseverance and good management he succeeded. He made most all the improvements, putting up good buildings, etc., and here he spent the rest of his life, dying in 1914, at the age of seventy-nine years. His widow is still living on the homestead. To these parents ten children were born, namely: Ragnil, Vil, Nels, Carrie, Ole, Inga, Adolph, Louis, Knut and Nina. The first five were born in Norway and the others in Clay county, Minnesota. They all attended the public

schools and they are all married with the exception of Nina, the youngest, who makes her home with her mother when not out teaching school.

Adolph Bjørndahl grew up on the home farm and assisted with the general work on the same when he became of proper age. He was married in 1914 to Hilda Christianson, who was born in 1886 on the home farm in section 9, Parke township, Clay county, and here she grew to womanhood and attended school. She is a daughter of Nels Christianson and wife, who came here in the early settlement of Parke township and established their future home on the farm. To Mr. and Mrs. Bjørndahl have been born two children, Norman and Dagny.

Mr. Bjørndahl now owns the home place, which consists of three hundred and twenty acres. He has kept it well improved and under a fine state of cultivation. On the place is to be seen an admirable group of farm buildings and everything is kept in its proper place. He also owns a quarter section of land and which he homesteaded in Perkins county, South Dakota. He carries on general farming, making a specialty of potato raising. This year (1917) he has forty-five acres in Ohio potatoes, his land being well adapted for this business. He keeps good graded live stock, cattle and horses and full-blooded Duroc hogs and feeds a great deal of his grain to his live stock. Politically, Mr. Bjørndahl is a Democrat. He is a member of the Hegland Free Lutheran church, of which he is treasurer, and is active in the affairs of the congregation.

HENRY ECKHOFF.

Henry Eckhoff, an enterprising general farmer, classed as one of the most prosperous agriculturists of Pleasant View township, Norman county, owner of five hundred and sixty acres of prime land and breeder of high-grade stock, is a native of the German empire, but has been a resident of the United States for the past forty-six years and of Norman county for thirty-seven years. He is the son of John and Anna Eckhoff and was born in Germany on March 27, 1843. In that country his parents spent all their lives, both being now deceased. They were the parents of the following children: William, deceased; Henry, the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Katie Poppe and Mrs. Grenda Merkins, of Ada.

Henry Eckhoff was educated in the schools of Germany and at the age of twenty-eight years, in 1871, he immigrated to America and first settled in



HENRY ECKHOFF AND FAMILY.

Red Wing, Minnesota, and in that place he worked on farms for some years, saving his earnings with the object of making a purchase for himself. In 1880 he came to Norman county and homesteaded a tract of eighty acres in section 8, Pleasant View township, later buying a tree claim that had been proved up by his wife's father. As Mr. Eckhoff prospered in his farming operations he continued to add more land to his holdings and is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of prime land, and here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, success attending his labors from the very beginning. He has carried out many excellent improvements, laid out groves and fences, and in 1894 he erected a new dwelling house to replace the old house that had done duty for several years and in 1913 he added to the other improvements a new and substantial barn. He is now accounted as one of the progressive and energetic farmers of the township, his farming operations being carried on according to modern agricultural methods.

On March 12, 1880, Henry Eckhoff was united in marriage to Angel Ergus, who was born on January 22, 1853, in Germany and who, when about twenty years of age, came with her parents to America, locating at Red Wing, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Eckhoff are the parents of the following children: Mary, who is a nurse in Ohio; John and Henry, at home; Ella, married and living four miles south of her father's place; Lizzie, married and living in Lockhart, and William, living on the home farm. The family are members of the Lutheran church.

AUGUST POPPE.

August Poppe, a well-known farmer and stock raiser, of Pleasant View township, Norman county, owner of a compact and well-kept farm of two hundred and forty acres of choice land in that township, treasurer of the township board and of the local school board, is a native of Germany, but has been a resident of the United States for the past forty-five years and of Norman county since 1878. He came to this country alone in 1872. He is the son of Joseph and Elizabeth Poppe, natives of Germany, who lived and died in that country, and a half-brother of Heine and Louis Heindricks, also of Norman county. The parents of these children were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the same faith.

August Poppe was educated in the schools of his native land and at the age of twenty-four years immigrated to America, going to Fond du Lac,

Wisconsin, where he obtained employment on the railroad in the winters and on farms during the summers, remaining in that place about two years. At the end of that period he moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, and worked on farms, later renting land, which he operated for about four years. He came to Norman county in 1878 and homesteaded eighty acres of land in section 8, Pleasant View township, the place where he now resides, and presently started to prepare the land for crops and ever since he has been engaged in general farming, marked success attending his labors from the very beginning. Mr. Poppe is the owner of an additional two hundred and forty acres, located near his original holding, and is also engaged in raising a high grade of stock. He has carried out many substantial improvements and he has one of the most compact and best-kept farm places in the township, his operations being conducted according to modern methods of agriculture.

In 1880 August Poppe was united in marriage to Kattie Eckoff, a native of Germany, born in 1851, who came to America in 1874, locating in Red Wing, this state. To this union two children were born, Anna, now deceased, who left a son, Alfred Uslick, now aged sixteen years, who resides with Mr. Poppe, and Carrie, who is married and lives east of her father's place. Mr. Poppe is a member of the Lutheran church, of which he served as trustee and as deacon for three years. He gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and is now in the twenty-fourth year of office as treasurer of the township board and has acted in a similar capacity for twenty-six years to the local school board. He helped to organize and is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada and in various other ways he has given of his time and energy to the promotion of movements intended to serve the public welfare.

HERBERT CLAYTON.

The young lad who has parents who are in a position to assist him in getting an education and prepare him for the future responsibilities of life can scarcely realize the responsibility of the lad who must go out into the world and battle alone with the difficulties that inevitably will confront him. Yet we find the lad of this kind in every clime and in every age. Many of these boys thus situated have been made of the right kind of stuff and have succeeded where others have failed. Knowing that their success or failure is

the result of their own efforts, they are perhaps more prone to look with favor upon what they can do under ordinary circumstances. Such a lad as this, who, at the age of eleven years, started life's work unassisted, is Herbert Clayton, of Lockhart township, Norman county, Minnesota, who was born in England on September 8, 1867, and is the son of Isaac and Ann (Darbyson) Clayton, natives of England, in which country they were married and lived their lives, they having died some years ago. They were of the farming class, hard working and industrious and highly respected, members of the Church of England. They were the parents of the following children: George, William, Sarah, Herbert, Mahalah, Anna, Arthur, Nellie and Levina.

Herbert Clayton received his meager education in the schools of his native land, and at the age of eleven years started in life for himself, working as a farm hand, and remained in England until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1887, he decided to come to America, where he might have a better opportunity to make a home for himself. It was with some misgivings that he bade farewell to the home folks and the scenes of his childhood and sailed for the new land. He had but limited funds and he fully realized that his future success depended upon his own efforts. On his landing in the United States he proceeded to near Jacksonville, Illinois, where for a time he worked as a farm hand, and where he later purchased a farm of his own. By hard work and close economy he succeeded in obtaining two hundred and twenty acres of splendid land. This he developed and improved and there he engaged in general farming and stock raising with success until 1913. He then disposed of his interests and his farm near Jacksonville and went to North Dakota, where he purchased five hundred and thirty acres of land in Grand Fork county and was there engaged in farming until the spring of 1916, in which year he came to Minnesota and purchased section 21 of the old Lockhart farm in Lockhart township, Norman county. Here he has made extensive improvements and is engaged in general farming and stock-raising and is much interested in Shorthorn cattle, a thorough farmer and an experienced stockman. He is a thorough believer in the systematic and modern methods of the operation of the farm of today, and in the management of his home place he has met with much success, today being recognized as one of the most successful and substantial men of the county.

On August 26th, 1890, Herbert Clayton was united in marriage to Alice Parkin, daughter of Richard and Sarah (Robinson) Parkin, natives of England, who came to the United States and located in the state of Illinois, near Jacksonville. It was in Illinois that Alice Parkin Clayton was born, and

there she was educated and married. To Mr. and Mrs. Clayton have been born the following children: Sarah, Albert, Ada, Leota, Genevieve, Richard, Ruth, Lena, Frank, Howard and Fred. Mr. and Mrs. Clayton are active members of the Presbyterian church, take much interest in church work and are liberal supporters of the local society. They are a most estimable couple and are held in high regard.

OLAF ANDERSON.

The late Olaf Anderson, for years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of McDonaldsville township, proprietor of a fine farm in that township and on which he had resided for about thirty-six years, was a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born in that country in 1842, a son of Anders Anderson and wife, who lived and died in that country.

Olaf Anderson was educated in the schools of Sweden, after which he worked at farm labor until he was twenty-nine years old, at which time, in 1871, he came to the United States and proceeded directly to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he farmed until 1879. In the latter year he moved to McDonaldsville township, Norman county, the trip, which was made by oxen, occupying about four weeks. Mr. Anderson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and commenced the task of preparing the ground for tillage and presently had things going in a satisfactory manner, his farming operations proving a success from the very beginning. As he prospered in the labors of the farm he continued to add to his holdings, finally getting together three hundred and twenty acres of as fine land as is to be found in the county, and here he spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring on November 26, 1903, he then being in the sixty-first year of his age. He put up all the buildings to be found on the place today and laid out a grove, which adds considerably to the appearance of the farm.

In Fillmore county, this state, Olaf Anderson was united in marriage to Turie Gilbertson, who was born in Norway, a sister of Thor Gilbertson, mention of whom is made in another part of this work. Mrs. Anderson came to America in 1870 and went to Fillmore county, this state. She died on December 29, 1916. To Olaf Anderson and wife the following children were born: Mrs. John J. Running, living in Winchester township, Norman county; Gilbertson and Belle, both living on the old home farm, which

Gilbert Anderson has been operating since his father's death, being recognized as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of the township, conducting his agricultural operations on modern lines and achieving commendable success.

The late Olaf Anderson was ever an active and zealous member of the Lutheran church, the first church of which congregation he helped to organize at West Wild Rice, and he was an earnest supporter of all good movements designed to improve the general social conditions of the township and neighborhood in which he had been for so many years a resident.

JOHN I. SMITH.

John I. Smith, a well-known and prosperous farmer and stockman, chairman of the township board, is a native of the Dominion of Canada, but has been a resident of Moorhead, Clay county, for about forty years, and has thus been a witness to the community development of this part of the state of Minnesota during that time. He was born in the province of Ontario on November 26, 1867, a son of Moses and Mary (Heath) Smith.

Moses Smith was born in Canada in 1839 and came to Moorhead about the year 1879. Mary Heath was also born in Canada, in 1841, and came to Moorhead with her husband, they having been married in Canada. Both are still living in this county. On coming here Moses Smith took up farming and has been following that occupation ever since. He and his wife are well known throughout the community as excellent citizens and are warmly esteemed by a large circle of friends. To Moses Smith and wife the following children were born: John, the subject of this sketch; James, deceased; Mary, who is married, and Emma, also married. These parents are members of the Methodist church and are interested in all neighborhood good works.

John I. Smith left Ontario, Canada, in December, 1879, and came with his parents to Moorhead. He received his early education in Canada and on coming to this county assisted his father with the work on the farm. After the lapse of some years he commenced farming on his own account. He has been living on his present farm in Kurtz township for the past twenty-six years and during that period has carried out many valuable improvements on his land and buildings. He is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land and is engaged with the cultivation of his tract for mixed farming, and has been very successful. He also raises a good strain

of cattle and contemplates adding Red Polled cattle to his herd. By hard work and the exercise of a wise economy Mr. Smith has been enabled to attain to his present position as one of the substantial and progressive farmers of Clay county.

John I. Smith was united in marriage to Nettie Brown, who was born in Minnesota in September, 1869, and to that union the following children have been born: Howard, who lives in Bismarek, North Dakota; Harold, Lister, Ethel and Jemette, all living at home with their parents. The Smith family are Presbyterians and are earnestly interested in all local good works.

In politics, Mr. Smith is a supporter of the Republican party. He has served as township supervisor for eighteen years and is chairman of the board at present. He is also a director of the school board, and in many other ways has given of his time and energy to all good causes calculated to improve the condition of the public in the community in which he has resided for so many years.

FRANCIS EDWARD SHAIDE.

Francis Edward Shaide, a recent settler in Mary township, Norman county, where he owns a quarter section of well improved land, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising, was born near Clifton, Illinois, December 2, 1881, a son of Jacob and Mary (Wiersbeck) Shaide, the former a native of Switzerland and the latter of Prussia, both coming to America in 1856, and settling near Clifton, Illinois, on a farm, well-known and respected citizens of the community. Jacob Shaide was born in March, 1832, and died on the home place in Illinois in 1915, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. The death of his wife occurred in 1906 when she was fifty-six years old, she having been born in 1850. To these parents seven children were born, those besides the subject of this review, who is the sixth in order of birth, being: Emma, deceased; Louise, wife of Matt Bannon and living in Chicago; Julia, who married Charles Schultz and now resides in Clifton, Illinois; William, who is living here in Mary township, where he is the proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 23; Bertha, the wife of Edward Trevis, now living in New York state, and Walter, who lives on the old home place in Illinois.

Francis E. Shaide was reared to manhood on the old home place in Illinois, where he received his common-school education in the district schools of the community, and he remained on the old farm rendering valu-

able assistance in the cultivation of the same until he reached the age of twenty-six years. In 1905 his brother, William, came northward into Minnesota, where he bought a quarter section in Mary township, Norman county, and his success in farming up here in the Red River valley country exerted no small influence in the coming of his brother, the subject of this review, into this section in 1907. When he arrived in Norman county, Francis E. Shaide made his home for a short time with his brother William, but soon he bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, Mary township, not far from his brother's holding. At first the tract was entirely unimproved, bearing a close resemblance to the land which greeted the eyes of the earliest settlers in this county, as it had never been plowed and was not supplied with any kind of farm buildings, but the task confronting this young man of twenty-six years merely whetted his industry and the reward for his efforts is his present excellent farm of one hundred and sixty well-improved acres on which he carries on general mixed farming and stock raising, owning two registered stallions and one blooded bull.

On October 23, 1911, Francis Edward Shaide was married to Hattie A. Schaefer, on this farm. Mrs. Shaide was born in Des Plaines, Illinois, July 1, 1891, a daughter of Henry and Minnie (Cook) Schaefer, the latter of whom was a native of Germany, who came to this country with her parents when she was three years of age. Henry Schaefer was born in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Shaide are the parents of three children, Tremain, Lovell and an infant. They are members of the St. Mary's Catholic church and in the affairs of the local parish they take a proper interest. Politically, Mr. Shaide is a member of the Republican party, and is serving as chairman of the township board, which official position he has occupied for seven years, with complete satisfaction to his neighbors.

TORGER OLSON SUNDET.

Torger Olson Sundet, one of the early settlers of Norman county, living here for thirty-seven years, the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres in Bear Park township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in that country on October 20, 1836, but has been a resident of the United States since 1867. He is a son of Ole Olson and Ingeborg (Halvorsdatter) Sundet, also born in Norway and who lived and died in that country. They were the parents of the following children: Marit, Ole, Halvar, Krjerste, Peder, Anne and Torger.

Torger O. Sundet was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared to manhood on his father's place. At the age of thirty-one, in 1867, he decided to try his fortune in America and in that year immigrated to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he worked on farms until 1880. In the latter year he moved via horse team to Norman county and took one hundred and sixty acres of homestead land in section 28, Bear Park township, on which he erected some log buildings and carried on general farming until 1903. He then moved to his present place in section 21, Bear Park township, where he has two hundred acres of excellent land, which is set out to general crops and from the very beginning of his operations he has met with a large measure of success, being considered one of the best husbandmen in the farming community.

Torger O. Sundet has been three times married. His first wife was Olena Guansta, a native of Norway; no children were born to that union. His second wife was Mrs. Marie (Jelleberg) Jelleberg, the widow of Herman Jelleberg, who died soon after their arrival in Fillmore county, Minnesota. By her marriage to Mr. Jelleberg she was the mother of one son, Olaus H., born on February 2, 1868, and who came with his parents to America the following year, 1869. Mr. Sundet's third marriage was to Jodda Johnsdatter Senneppen, who is still living. Mr. Sundet is a member of the Ness Lutheran church, which he helped to organize and in whose good works he is actively interested. He also assisted in the organization of Bear Park Mercantile Company. Mr. Sundet is not the father of any children, but his stepson, Olaus H. Jelleberg, has taken the name of Sundet, and all live together on the home farm.

EDWARD M. EVANS

Edward M. Evans, a well-to-do and progressive farmer, owner of three hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, connected with various township offices and with the local telephone and creamery companies, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Fillmore county, July 11, 1858. He is a son of Nels and Gunhild (Tostensen) Evans, both of whom were born in Norway, the former coming to America, while yet a single man, in 1846, and, in 1856, settling in Fillmore county, where they were married some time later. Gunhild Tostensen came with her parents, Tostensen and Astri (Sverie) Larson, in 1857, and who also settled in Fillmore county.



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD M. EVANS

On arriving in Fillmore county Nels Evans pre-empted a tract of land proceeded immediately to get it into a state of cultivation and engaged in general farming up to the time of his death in 1872, being regarded as one of the most energetic and practical farmers in that part of the county. His wife, who survived him, is still living in Fillmore county. Nels Evans served as a soldier on behalf of the maintenance of the Union of his adopted country, joining Company F, Fifth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and saw much service, finally being mustered out, after which he resumed his farming operations. Nels Evans and wife were the parents of seven children as follow: Edward M., the subject of this sketch; Anna; Henry C.; Anton, deceased; Caroline, deceased; Charles, and James, deceased. They were members of the Lutheran church and earnest advocates of all its good works. They helped to organize the first church of their community in Fillmore county and were ever among those who aimed at helping in all causes calculated to promote the best interests of the neighborhood and township in which they lived.

Edward M. Evans was educated in the schools of Fillmore county and worked on his father's farm, a valuable assistant in the labors of improving and developing the land. In 1881, at the age of twenty-three years, he came to Norman county and bought a tract of railroad land in McDonaldsville township and is still residing on that place, engaged in general farming. He put up some substantial buildings on his holding and set out a fine grove of trees, which adds considerably to its general appearance. He is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of prime land, which he cultivates according to modern methods of agriculture and is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

On December 10, 1885, Edward M. Evans was united in marriage to Jensena Erickson, who was born in Norway and at the age of six months was brought to this country by her parents, Anton and Guro (Anderson) Erickson, who are now living in Lake Ada township, Norman county. Their first place of residence was in Clay county, where, in the early seventies they homesteaded a tract of land on which they lived until 1883 when they moved to the farm in Norman county, and where Anton Erickson is a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Evans are the parents of the following children: Gena, Nels, Josie, Edwin and Albert, all of whom are living. The Evans family are members of the Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of the church and all neighborhood good works, excellent factors in the affairs of the community and township.

Mr. Evans has ever given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and for fifteen years served as township assessor, in which office he served with fidelity and ability. He helped to organize the local school district and served on the school board for a considerable time. He also helped in the organization of the local telephone and creamery companies and has held official positions in both, and in other ways he has given of his time and energy to the public welfare.

ANDREW HUSEBY.

Andrew Huseby, a farmer of Tansem township, Clay county, was born in Norway, April 19, 1860, and, like many of his countrymen, he came to the great Northwest with no capital; but with plenty of courage and grit, consequently he has succeeded. He is a son of Andrew and Anna (Huseby) Huseby, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their home, never coming to the United States. The elder Andrew Huseby was a shoemaker by trade. To these parents eight children were born, named as follow: Gilbert and Erick, who are still living in Norway; Ragna and Sarah, both of whom died in Norway; Gertrude, who came to America and died in Wisconsin; Andrew, the subject of this sketch, and Ole and Knut, who are both engaged in farming in Tansem township, Clay county.

The junior Andrew Huseby spent his boyhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. When twenty-five years of age, in 1885, he came to America, and almost immediately thereafter started on the long journey directly to Clay county, Minnesota. He secured employment as a farm hand in Tansem township, where he worked for some time, then bought railroad land, which he improved into a good farm, on which he has since resided, owning one hundred and sixty acres in section 15, Tansem township. He has put on all the improvements on the same, including a comfortable residence and numerous outbuildings, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Huseby was married in Norman county in 1890 to Marie Narum, who was born in that county. She grew up on the farm and attended the district schools. She is a daughter of John and Caroline Narum, both natives of Norway where they spent their earlier years. They came to America and took up a homestead in Norman county, Minnesota, about 1874, being among the first settlers there. They endured many hardships, as did

most of the pioneers, but by perseverance they established a good home. Their family consisted of eight children.

To Mr. and Mrs. Huseby twelve children have been born, namely: Albert, Clara, Julia, Ella, Clifford, Rena, Selma, Cora, Delphin, Esther, Emil (deceased), and Oliver. Mr. Huseby and his family belong to the local Norwegian Lutheran church, which he helped organize. The building was erected in 1917. There had never been a church of this denomination in their vicinity before.

MALKER O. VALEN.

Malker O. Valen, an energetic and substantial farmer of Kurtz township, Clay county, owner of nineteen hundred and twenty acres of prime land, as well as raising hogs on an extensive scale, was born in Trondjhem, Norway, in 1871. He is the son of O. O. and Albertina Valen, the former of whom, born in 1823, has been dead for some years and the latter of whom died about five years ago at the advanced age of eighty-one years. The parents were natives of Norway, where O. O. Valen farmed for many years before coming to the United States.

O. O. Valen and wife were the parents of the following children: Anna, deceased; Ove, living in Norway; Nicholi, in this country; Julia, Ergania and Mary, all in Norway; Andrew, Odin and Anna, all deceased, and Malker, the subject of this sketch, and Lina, in this country. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and earnest supporters of all its good works.

Malker O. Valen was educated in the schools of Norway and on coming to this country commenced to work for himself as a farmer. He bought a tract of land after the lapse of some time, and as he prospered in his farming operations he continued to add to his holdings until he is now the owner of nineteen hundred and twenty acres of land, four hundred acres of which he set out to the cultivation of potatoes in 1917. In addition to his general farming he is also engaged in the raising of Duroc-Jersey hogs and all his agricultural efforts have been attended with success. He is now known to be one of the largest and most substantial landowners in this part of the county. His outbuildings and dwelling house are in excellent shape and all the improvements on the holding have been placed thereon at considerable expense. Mr. Valen's entire farming equipment being modern in all details.

On December 18, 1895, Malcker O. Valen was united in marriage to Laura Larson, who was born in Rustad, Clay county, Minnesota, in 1877, the daughter of Gilbert and Mathia Larson, natives of Norway. Mr. and Mrs. Valen are the parents of the following children: Tina, Lillian, Anna and Grant, all of whom are at home with their parents. The Valen family are members of the Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of all its good works. In addition to his farming interests Mr. Valen is also interested in the general welfare of the public. For many years he has given attention to the educational affairs of the township and served as a member of the school board for some time. He also served as township supervisor for six years, and as a supporter of the Republican party he has rendered valuable service to the public interests with which that party are identified.

HON. JOHN L. WOLD.

The Hon. John L. Wold, former representative from the sixty-first district in the Minnesota state Legislature, former president of the village council at Twin Valley, vice-president of the Security State Bank of that place and for years actively engaged in the hardware business there, one of the best-known merchants in Norman county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived here all his life. He was born on a farm in Sibley county on July 13, 1877, son of Nels and Cecilia Wold, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to this country and after a while became pioneers in this section of Minnesota, remaining here until 1900, when they went to the Pacific coast, where their last days were spent.

Nels Wold was born at Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, and there grew to manhood and married, later coming to this country by way of Canada. After a year spent in Quebec he moved to Chicago and after a few years spent there came to Minnesota and settled in Sibley county. In 1880, about the time this section of the Red River valley was beginning to be systematically settled, he came up here and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 21 of what later came to be organized as Wild Rice township, Norman county, and after developing the same moved his family here and established his home. On that pioneer farm he continued to make his home until 1890, when he left the farm and moved to Twin Valley, where he bought the Valley Hotel and was for ten years thereafter engaged in the hotel business. In 1900 he disposed of his interests at Twin Valley

and he and his wife moved to Portland, Oregon, presently moving thence to Everett, Washington, where their last days were spent, her death occurring in 1905 and his, in 1907. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth, the others being Trine, Christian, Anna, Lizzie, Bella, Theodore, Oscar and Bernhard.

John L. Wold grew up on the home farm in Wild Rice township, thoroughly familiar with pioneer conditions of living there. He received his elementary schooling in the schools of that township and supplemented the same by a two-years course at Red Wing Seminary and a course of two years at Concordia College at Moorhead. Upon leaving college Mr. Wold, in 1902, became engaged in the mercantile business at Twin Valley in partnership with J. K. Meium and was thus engaged until after his service in the Legislature, when, in 1907, he engaged in the real-estate business, continuing thus engaged until 1910, when, in partnership with A. H. Froshaug, he again engaged in the mercantile business at Twin Valley, his line this time being general hardware. In 1914 Mr. Wold bought his partner's interest in the store and has since conducted the same alone, for years one of the best-known and most energetic merchants of that village. In addition to his mercantile business Mr. Wold has other business interests in the village and has long been regarded as one of the "live wires" of that place. He was one of the organizers of the Security State Bank of Twin Valley, a member of the board of directors of the same since its organization and since 1915 has been vice-president of the same. He also was one of the organizers of the Twin Valley Auto and Supply Company and in other ways has taken an active part in the general business affairs of his home town. Mr. Wold also has been for years actively interested in local political affairs and, in 1906, was elected representative from the sixty-first Minnesota representative district in the state Legislature, serving with distinction in the House during the session of 1907. He also has served as president of the village council and in other ways has given of his time and energies to the public service.

In the year 1904 John L. Wold was united in marriage to Matilda Aaker, daughter of Ole Aaker and wife, of Flandrau, South Dakota, and to this union five children have been born, Carmen E., Otis L., Johan L., Delta L. and Arnt H. Mr. and Mrs. Wold are members of the Hauges Lutheran church and take an active and interested part in church work, Mr. Wold having served for many years as secretary of the local congre-

gation and is the present superintendent of the Sunday school. The Wolds have a very pleasant home and have ever taken a proper part in the community's general social activities, helpful in promoting all movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

OLE M. LANGELAND.

A prosperous farmer and well-known stockman of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, is Ole M. Langeland, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 3, 1857, a son of Magne H. and Gertie (Bjorg) Langeland, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Magne H. Langeland came with his wife and two children from their home in Norway to the United States about 1850, locating first in Dane county, Wisconsin, where they lived for five years, engaged in farming. They then moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, driving overland by ox-team, the trip requiring three weeks. In this latter county Magne Langeland engaged extensively in farming, and became the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of land there, which he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Rachel, Helge, Knut (first), Lars, Knut (second), Magne, Ole and Martha, all but three of whom are still living. The mother of these children died in Winneshiek county, Iowa, and the father passed away at the home of his son, Magne, in Otter Tail county, Minnesota.

Ole M. Langeland received his education in the rural schools of Winneshiek county, Iowa, and assisted his father with the work on the home farm until 1883, when he came to Norman county, Minnesota, where, for the first year, he worked on the farm of A. L. Hanson, of Winchester township; after which, for the next two years, he worked on various farms in the county. He engaged in farming on his own account by purchasing eighty acres of land in Hegne township, which he cultivated and improved, later adding eighty acres more to the tract. He built a new barn on this place, besides making other improvements, and lived there until 1905, when he sold it and purchased one hundred and sixty acres in McDonaldsville township, where he has since lived. Here he has made many substantial improvements, erecting good buildings and otherwise adding to the appearance and value of the farm. He is engaged in farming and stock raising, and ranks high among the stockmen of his community as a breeder of thoroughbred

Shorthorn cattle, of which he makes a specialty, and is very successful in his farming operations.

On June 10, 1883, Ole M. Langeland was united in marriage to Isabel Jacobson, who was born in Alamakee county, Iowa, the daughter of Andrew Jacobson. To this union two children have been born: Minnie, the wife of Peter Larson, and Geneva, living at home with her parents. The family are all earnest and consistent members of the Scandinavian Lutheran church, which Mr. Langeland helped to organize in McDonaldsville township.

Mr. Langeland has always taken an active interest in the social and civic welfare of his community, and while living in Hegne township served on the township board as chairman, and also filled a like position on the township board in McDonaldsville township.

HANS C. TUFTE.

Hans C. Tufte, a well-known general farmer, who rents two hundred and twenty acres of prime land in section 29, Mary township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the state of Minnesota for the past twenty-five years. He was born in Tonsburg in that country in 1865, a son of Frederick and Maren (Ramners) Tufte, both also natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives. Frederick Tufte was born in 1824 and died in 1910, having reached the good old age of eighty-six years, and Maren Ramners was born in 1831 and is still living in the old country at the advanced age of eighty-six. To Frederick Tufte and wife the following children were born: John, Mathew and Jens, all deceased; Selma, married and living in Norway; Frederick, who lives in Mary township; Hans, the subject of this sketch; Ole, who lives in Oregon; Martine, still in Norway; Invalg, also in that country, and Ludwig, living in Canada.

Hans C. Tufte was reared on his father's place in Norway and was educated in the schools of the district in which he resided, continuing to reside with his parents until 1892, in which year he decided to try his fortune at this side of the Atlantic. On arriving in the country he came on out to Minnesota and worked on farms in Norman county for about two years, at the end of which time he became employed in a sawmill at Ada and remained thus occupied for a period of twenty years. He then moved to his present place in section 29, Mary township, and is now renting two hundred acres

of land on which he carries on general mixed farming and has done very well, his farming operations, which are carried on according to modern requirements, proving profitable.

On April 21, 1898, at Ada, this state, Hans C. Tufte was united in marriage to Marie Rannes, a native of Norway, born in that country on January 29, 1874. To this union the following children have been born: Fred, Matthew, Lillie, Henry, Esther and Ray, all of whom are at home with their parents. The Tufte family are earnest members of the Trinity Lutheran church and are zealous attendants on its services, helping likewise in all community movements calculated to serve the best interests of the district and township.

HANS PETER HENRICKSON.

Hans Peter Henrickson of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, is one of those farmers who never loses sight of the fact that the soil must be well supplied with organic matter; that humus is absolutely necessary to the soil to make plant food available; that if one practices crop rotation, one must not fail to include one or more of the legumes. These and many other similar ideas of successful farming have long been well known to him and he has therefore met with success.

Mr. Hendickson was born in Denmark on June 1, 1866, a son of Henry J. and Anna Margaret Jacobson, both natives of Denmark, who came to America in 1873 and established their home in Iowa, where the mother's death occurred in 1897 at the age of about seventy years. Henry J. Jacobson was born in 1818. He was a laborer in the old country, but after coming to America spent most of his time at the homes of his children. His death occurred at the unusual age of ninety-six years. His family consisted of the following children: Catherina, a widow, who conducts a boarding house at State College, Iowa; Sine, a retired farmer, who lives at Humboldt, Iowa; Caren, who lives in Denmark; Maren, deceased; Jens, a stock buyer and retired farmer, who lives in Iowa, and Hans P., the subject of this sketch.

Hans P. Henrickson grew to manhood in Denmark and there attended school. He was eighteen years old when he came to America, in 1874. He located in Clay county, Minnesota, in 1900 and bought his present farm of four hundred and eighteen acres in sections 9, 10 and 11, Goose Prairie township. The place was run down, only a few buildings on it, but he now



HANS P. HENRIKSON AND FAMILY.

has it under a fine state of cultivation and well improved in every way. He has a substantial dwelling and in 1917 built a modern barn, forty-four by ninety-two feet, at a cost of forty-five hundred dollars. He has been very successful in his diversified farming operations and carries on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, making a specialty of raising blooded Angus cattle for the market, for which he finds a very ready sale owing to their superior quality. He raises great crops annually of corn, potatoes and clover hay.

On February 26, 1888, Mr. Henrickson was married to Anna Margaret Bendixen, who was born on January 18, 1870, in Pocahontas county, Iowa. Her parents were natives of Denmark, from which country they came to America and established their future home in Iowa, where they engaged in farming. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Henrickson, as follow: Carl, who is in a Minnesota light artillery regiment, having enlisted in 1917 from Clay county for service in the European War; Elmer, who is married and lives at home, assisting his father with the work on the farm; Josie, who is married and lives on a farm in Becker county, this state; Harry, who is at home; Alice, also at home, who is studying to be a trained nurse, and Helen, who also is at home with her parents.

Mr. Henrickson is an independent voter, a member of the Non-partisan League. He has served as clerk of his local school district, No. 28. He attends the Congregational church. He is a member of the Clay County Safety Committee and is also a member of the Clay County Farm Bureau.

ANDREW J. VOJE.

Andrew J. Voje, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser of Hendrum township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor of three hundred and sixty acres of good farming land, was born in Norway, March 24, 1855, the son of John K. and Anna (Voje) Voje, both natives of Norway, where they were reared and married. Some six years after the birth of Andrew J. Voje, his parents hearing of the great opportunities for industrious and thrifty persons, as they were, to become prosperous landowners under the protection of the Stars and Stripes across the Atlantic, bade their friends and relatives in the land of their nativity goodbye and came to America in 1861, locating in Waupaca county, Wisconsin, two miles west of Scandinavia. By dint of thrift and perseverance John K. Voje soon acquired a

tract of new land which he speedily brought under cultivation, and there he and his wife remained until their deaths. They were the parents of seven children, as follow: Kjerster, deceased; Knut, who died at the age of eleven years; Bertha Helen, who died at the age of seven or eight years; Andrew J., the subject of this review; Bertha, Knut and Mary. The elder Voje and family were all members of the Lutheran church, which had in them loyal and consistent adherents.

When Andrew J. Voje first breathed the air of free America, he was only six years of age and during his residence in Waupaca county, Wisconsin, where his parents had settled, he attended the common schools, thus receiving his early education. He remained on the old home place with his parents, contributing a goodly share of his effort to its improvement, until he had reached the age of twenty-three, when, as a single man, he came directly to Norman county, Minnesota, having heard that there was ample opportunity in that section for a young man of determination and spirit to successfully establish himself, and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of section 24 in Hendrum township, but proved it up as a homestead. From 1878 to 1892 he remained there, improving his farm and successfully cultivating the same, until his resources permitted the addition of forty more acres. In 1892 he decided to change his residence from section 24 to section 25, where he has since lived, in Hendrum township, having added one hundred and sixty more acres to his holdings. At his last location he has added improvements with his wonted diligence until he has one of the best improved farms in the township, on which he carries on general farming and makes a specialty of breeding graded Aberdeen Angus cattle.

On September 13, 1881, Mr. Voje married Mary Moirah, who also was born in Norway, the daughter of Peter Hanson, who emigrated to this country in 1860, settling in Winneshiek county, Iowa. To this union have been born six children, all of whom are living, namely: Hans, Ed. Mary, Andrew and Gust (twins), and Christina. Mr. Voje and family, as were his father and his family, are active and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, and he helped to organize the Concordia Lutheran church.

Mr. Voje has also found time, when he has not been busily engaged on his farm, to take an active part in the civil and business affairs of his community. When he came to this township, it was not organized, but when its population reached the requisite number, he, among others, organized it into the present Hendrum township. His industry, integrity and capability so commended him to his neighbors that they conferred upon him local

official trusts, and he has served as township assessor for twenty-four years and is now the incumbent of that office. Being a progressive farmer, Mr. Voje has been deeply interested in the establishment of adequate marketing and credit facilities in the community, and has helped to organize the creamery, the farmers elevator and the Farmers State Bank, all of Hendrum. Politically, Mr. Voje is a Republican. Whenever any deserving movement is started in the community for its social, civil or material betterment, it finds in him an ardent and wholesouled supporter.

PETER THOMAS.

Peter Thomas, a well-known and prosperous farmer, owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land in Mary township, Norman county, and former member of the school board, is a native of the state of Minnesota, born in the city of St. Paul, May 12, 1857, a son of Jacob and Mary (McLean) Thomas, for the latter of whom the township of Mary was named. Jacob Thomas was a farmer, originally entering a homestead tract containing one hundred and sixty acres, which he improved and developed, and as he prospered in his farming operations he added to his land holdings, finally becoming the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Mary township, on which he carried on general farming for many years. He died at Minneapolis, where he had lived retired, in February, 1912, at the age of eighty years. The land is now owned by his daughters. His wife, Mary McLean, died in 1913, also aged eighty years. They were devout members of the Catholic church and earnest advocates of all movements designed to forward the best interests of the community in which they resided. They were the parents of the following children: Mary, married, and living in Minneapolis, this state; Peter, the subject of this sketch; Melissa, Alice and Fannie, residing in Minneapolis; Emma, married and living in Kendall, North Dakota; Helena, unmarried, who also is living in Kendall, and Bertram, a banker, living in Hansboro, North Dakota. Jacob Thomas was ever active in matters relating to the public welfare and served for a number of years on the school board and also on the township board.

Peter Thomas was educated in the schools of his home district and at the age of twenty-one, in 1878, he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14, Mary township, later buying eighty acres, and is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres of as good land as is to

be found in the township. In the early stages of his farming operations he used oxen to carry on the work, but as he progressed in his labors he gradually employed modern methods and has now one of the best farm plants in the district in which he resides. Mr. Thomas carried out many substantial improvements and erected several good buildings, and is now engaged in general farming and has been very successful.

Peter Thomas was united in marriage to Regina House, who was born in Canada in 1862. Her father owned a farm of three hundred and twenty acres north of Mary township and sold it in 1886, then going to Michigan, where he died in 1895. Her mother died in Missouri in 1878 at the age of sixty-one years. She has two brothers and one sister living. To Mr. and Mrs. Thomas the following children were born: Harry, married and living in Delavan, Wisconsin; Mrs. Annie Sorsen, married and living in Mary township; Emma, married, living in Racine, Wisconsin, and Elizabeth and Edna, who live in Mary township. The family are members of the Catholic church and are earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in the good works of the community at large. Mr. Thomas served on the school board for about twenty years and he helped to organize school district No. 36. He is a shareholder in the Telephone Company of Perley and also holds shares in a potato warehouse at Borup, and in many other directions gives of his services to advance the general welfare of the district and township.

JOHN A. MERKINS.

John A. Merkins, a substantial and well-known farmer of McDondalville township, Norman county, renter of three hundred and twenty acres of his father's choice land, and who has lived in this county all of his life, was born on his father's homestead in Pleasant View township, Norman county, January 1, 1879, son of John and Mary (Ackaff) Merkins, well-known farming people, who are now living retired at Ada.

John and Mary Merkins were both natives of Germany, where they were educated and reared. They immigrated to the United States in 1887 and spent a short time in Red Wing, Minnesota, and then moved to Pleasant View township, Norman county, where John Merkins homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. He immediately commenced the task of preparing the land for crops and in time was well under way, success attending his efforts from the very beginning. As he prospered in his agri-

cultural activities he added to his land holdings, finally getting together twelve hundred and forty acres, which he still retains. On the original homestead he planted a grove, erected substantial buildings and carried out other improvements on modern lines and he is generally regarded as one of the most progressive and well-to-do farmers of the community. Mr. Merkins retired from the active labors of the farm in 1901 and has since, with his wife, been living at Ada. They are the parents of the following children: Henry, John A., Anna, Lewis, Benjamin, Clara, Martha, Walter and Arthur, all of whom are living. John Merkins, his wife and the members of his family are affiliated with the Lutheran church and the elder Merkins helped to organize the first church of that congregation in his community.

John A. Merkins was educated in the schools of Norman county and was reared on his father's farm, where he became an able assistant in the work of improving and developing the homestead. He now resides in McDonaldsville township and is actively engaged in general farming on his holding, which consists of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land, which is operated with a view to the best obtainable results, and he is recognized, as was his father before him, as a progressive agriculturist.

On August 5, 1900, John A. Merkins was united in marriage to Amanda Trickle, who was born at Lockhart, Norman county, a daughter of Albert Trickle and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Merkins are the parents of four children, Myrtle, Esther, Annie and Minnie, all of whom are living. Mr. Merkins and family are members of the Lutheran church and are ardent supporters of all its works and of all neighborhood good works.

PETER LARSON.

Crop management is a scheme, not a lot of practices. An important part of it is the rotating or alternating of crops on given areas. In other words, prearranged, permanent plans must be carried out in order to obtain the best possible results. One of the farmers of Hawley township, Clay county, who understands and practices rotation of crops with gratifying results is Peter Larson.

Mr. Larson was born in Norway in 1869. He is a son of Seviert and Anne Larson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and established their permanent home, and where the mother still lives. The father died about thirteen years ago, at the age of seventy-two. They never

came to America. He devoted his active life to farming and to commercial fishing; in fact, he was known as a great fisherman in his locality. To these parents four children were born, namely: Dora, deceased; Lena, a widow, who lives in Norway; Bertenia, who has also remained in the old country, and Peter, the subject of this sketch.

Peter Larson spent his boyhood in Norway, assisting his father with farming and fishing, and in the winter time he attended the common schools. When nineteen years old he immigrated to America, first locating in Polk county, Minnesota, where he spent ten months, then came to Fargo and Moorhead and worked on farms in the vicinity of those cities for two years. He then accepted a position with the B & R Lumber Company in Fargo and remained with that concern for eight years, his long retention indicating that he gave entire satisfaction. He saved his wages and upon leaving the firm rented a farm, operating rented land until 1910, when he bought his present excellent farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 35, in Hawley township, Clay county. He has made some improvements on the place, although it was already fairly well improved when he took possession. He is carrying on general farming and stock raising, specializing in potato growing, having had a fine field of twelve acres in the summer of 1917.

In 1897, twenty miles southwest of Fargo, North Dakota, Mr. Larson was married to Vine Engen, who was born in Norway in 1871 and who came to America when twelve years old. To this union five children have been born, namely: Alma, Sophia, Victor, Henry and Bernhard, all of whom live at home. Mr. Larson belongs to the Sons of Norway.

HENRY O. SKAURUD.

Henry O. Skaurud, one of Norman county's substantial farmers and the proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Lake Ida township, where he and his family are very comfortably situated, is a native son of Iowa, but has lived here in the Red River country since 1881, the year in which Norman county became formally organized as a county. He was born on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, not far from Decorah, March 2, 1874, son of John O. and Martha (Monson) Skaurud, both natives of the kingdom of Norway, who were married in Iowa and whose last days were spent on their pioneer farm in Norman county.

John O. Skaurud came to the United States in 1848 and made his way into the Northwest, locating at St. Paul, which then was but a village made up of a scattering group of log houses. For a time he was engaged in the work of construction of the Minneapolis & Peoria railroad and then made his way down into Iowa and settled in Winneshiek county, in the vicinity of Decorah, and there began farming; being, at one time and another during his residence in that county, the owner of three different farms. There he married Martha Monson, who was born in Norway in 1840 and who was thirteen years of age when she came with her parents, Mons and Katherina Monson, to this country, the family settling in the neighborhood of Decorah, Iowa, where Mons Monson and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. In 1879 John O. Skaurud came up here into the Red River country and bought a quarter of a section of railroad land in what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township, Norman county, and in 1881 moved with his family to that place, there establishing his home and developing an excellent farm. He planted a grove, erected substantial buildings and as he prospered added to his land holdings until he became the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land. On that pioneer farm he and his wife spent their last days, she dying at the age of forty-seven years. They were members of the Lutheran church, were active participants in the work of organizing the Synod church at Twin Valley and their children were reared in the faith of that church. There were six of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Christian, Mary, Albert (deceased), Fred L. and Joseph.

Henry O. Skaurud was seven years of age when his parents moved from Iowa to Norman county and his schooling was completed in the early schools of this county. When thirteen years of age he was taken into the home of his sister at Sabin and for ten years made his residence there. He then started farming on his own account, renting a place in Wild Rice township after his marriage, and was thus engaged there until the spring of 1901, when he moved to the place he now owns in Lake Ida township and has ever since resided there. Upon taking possession of that place he found a bare tract of land, which he has improved and brought up to a high state of development, erecting on the same substantial buildings and otherwise bringing the place up to the status of a modern, well-kept farm plant. Mr. Skaurud has increased his original holdings there to four hundred acres and is doing well in his operations.

On December 12, 1896, Henry O. Skaurud was united in marriage to Nettie Erickson, who was born in the neighboring county of Becker, a daughter of Anton Erickson, now a resident of Lake Ida township, Norman county, and to this union have been born three children, Grace Myrtle, Florence Emilia and James Arthur. The Skauruds are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in the general social activities and good works of the community in which they live and in which the family has been honorably represented since the days of the beginning of permanent settlement there.

ANUN G. ANDERSON.

The mind of the farmer must be as well balanced as to farm affairs. With a good mental grasp on the situation a farmer should be enabled to get enjoyment and much profit out of his specialties without interfering with the known necessity for diversified farming. One of the farmers of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, who is making a success of diversified farming is Anun G. Anderson, who was born on February 4, 1858, in Norway. He is a son of Gunder and Oslog (Torbenson) Anderson, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home, but brought their family to America in 1873, coming on West to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained until 1881, when they located in Clay county, on the farm on which their son, the subject of this sketch, now lives, and here these parents spent the rest of their lives. However, the father never owned any land, working as a laborer all his active life. His death occurred in 1908, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The mother's death occurred in 1896, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Eight children were born to Gunder and Oslog Anderson, namely: Mrs. Tona Erickson, who lives on a farm in Goose Prairie township; Torben, who died in Highland Grove township, leaving a widow and a large family; Mrs. Carrie Olson, who lives on a farm in Goose Prairie township; Mrs. Christine Storsely, who lives in the state of Washington; Anun, the subject of this sketch; Aslake, who is engaged in buying and sellings hops in Silverton, Oregon; Anna, who is the wife of a farmer and lives in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and Mrs. Anluge Torgerson, of Moorhead, this state.



ARVID G. ANDERSON.

Anun G. Anderson spent his boyhood in Norway, coming to America when fifteen years old, in 1873, with his parents, two brothers and two sisters. He lived in Fillmore county, this state, until 1881, when he came with the rest of the family to Clay county. As a young man he worked on the farm and in 1879 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 28, Goose Prairie township, later adding eighty acres in section 21 of that township, and now owns two hundred and forty acres of valuable and well-improved farming land, on which he has been very successful, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has brought the land up to a high state of cultivation during his residence here of thirty-eight years. He made all the improvements on the place, including the erection of suitable buildings, fences, setting out a grove, etc.; has lived to see the community developed from a wild, sparsely settled prairie to one of the choice farming sections of the state and has played well his part in this transformation. He now rents his land, but still lives on the place. He sells all his stock to his renter. Wheat, oats and flax are the principal crops. Mr. Anderson used oxen in his first farming operations on this place, paying the sum of one hundred and forty-five dollars for a team.

Politically, Mr. Anderson is independent and has never been particularly active in public affairs, nor has he held office. He belongs to the Synod Lutheran church and was a trustee of the same for several years. Mr. Anderson has remained unmarried.

GEORGE JOHNSON.

George Johnson, a substantial farmer and landowner and a well-known citizen of Lake Ida township, Norman county, where he was one of the early settlers, was born in Norway on June 11, 1847, the son of Jens Jorgan and Elsie Katherina (Olsdatter) Knutson, both natives of Norway where they lived and died in the same community, the father being a farmer and landowner. Besides George Johnson, they were parents of eight other children, namely: Knut, Ole, Anna, Margareta and Ole Bijon, all of whom died in Norway; John, of Fossum township, Norman county; Jens, of Alberta, Canada; and Elsie Marie, who married Elwig Clausen and now lives in Alberta, Canada.

After George Johnson had received his education in Norway and had grown to maturity, the opportunities in the New World beckoned him to

leave the land of his birth for the conquest of new fields in America. Accordingly, in 1860, he with a party of his countrymen, in which number was his sweetheart, came direct to Leland, Illinois, and settled in Erwald, a town near the aforementioned city. Soon after his arrival in Erwald, he married and began working on the farms of that vicinity, where finally by dint of his industry he became the owner of four acres of land. After a three-year residence in Erwald, he and his wife went to Faribault, Rice county, this state, where he worked at the mason's trade and at other occupations for four years; but soon the call of the soil and the opportunity to become an extensive landowner sent him with a group of his neighbors and brothers northward toward Norman county. It was in the spring of 1872 when they started in covered wagons drawn by oxen, driving their stock before them toward the land of the Red river; and George Johnson, with his three brothers, John Jenson, Jens Morland and Henry Benson with their families and personal effects in three covered wagons, driving a large bunch of cattle, arrived at their destination in Fossum township, about five miles east of Twin Valley, after a long journey of three or four weeks.

Soon after George Johnson arrived in Fossum township he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land which comprised the southwest quarter of section 28, and there he raised log buildings and lived two or three years, at the end of which time he homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 14 in Lake Ida township, where he has since lived. When Mr. Johnson arrived in this community, there were very few settlers and conditions would not have been promising except for one permeated with the true pioneer spirit, there being no roads or bridges; but Mr. Johnson immediately set about to improve his holding by setting out trees and raising buildings and putting the virgin soil under cultivation. Now he has to show for all these years of toil one of the best improved farms in the township, where he raises grain, vegetables and hogs.

In 1869, the year in which Mr. Johnson came to America, he married Bergitta Olsdatter, who was born at Hvitsol, Norway, the daughter of Ole Oba, who, as did also his wife, lived and died in Norway. To this union were born the following children: Alfred, Emma Katherina (deceased), Karen Olena, Knut J. and Hannah Margareta (deceased).

Mr. Johnson's family are all staunch members of the Lutheran church, five churches of which he has helped to organize since he has been in America, one in Rice county and four in this part of Norman county. Especially instrumental was he in the organization of the West Wild Rice Lutheran congregation, as he picked out the location of the church building. Mr.

Johnson has also been active in local affairs, for he was present at the organization of Fossum and Lake Ida townships, the latter of which was named after a little lake which lay within the territory of the township and which was named for the first white girl born here or the first one to come here to reside. Mr. Johnson's activity locally did not cease with the organization of the townships, because he has served Ida Lake township as supervisor.

A. P. HEINEN.

Banking, one of the most important business and economic enterprises of a community, is the clearing-house process of any town or community. Throughout the portals of the bank passes the business of whatsoever nature that is conducted in a progressive and up-to-date business center. The men who have invested their capital and devote their time and best efforts to this branch of business are entitled to the highest commendation of the people of any section of the country. To successfully operate a bank, any man must have special training and be possessed of the best judgment and of the highest integrity. He is the confidential adviser of the business community and to him are submitted many personal propositions on which he must give his earnest and candid opinion. He must be a man who knows human nature, apt, able and quick of comprehension. In his hands are placed, not alone the funds of many an individual; but to him do they look for advice and counsel. He is the maker of loans of the funds of others and the guardian of their all. The successful banker must be all of this and more, for in him the community puts its trust and faith; more, perhaps, than in any other man in the community. He knows the social standing of the people and their ability to do things, better, in many cases, than they do themselves. Such a man, with these qualifications, is A. P. Heinen, the cashier of the State Bank of Lockhart, Norman county, Minnesota, who was born in Brown county, this state, in 1892, the son of P. J. and Margaret (Schwerzler) Heinen, both of whom are natives of Brown county, Minnesota.

The paternal grandparents of A. P. Heinen were natives of Germany, where they received their education and grew to manhood and womanhood and married. Early in life they decided to come to America, where many of their friends and relatives had located, and where they felt that they might the better have an opportunity to make a home for themselves and

those dependent upon them. On their arrival in the United States, they at once came to the state of Minnesota and settled in New Ulm in the early fifties. That section of the state at that time was well on the frontier of civilization in this country and was subject to attack by the Indians. The Heimens were at New Ulm at the time of the general outbreak of the Indians in 1862, when the entire settlement came near being destroyed. These early arrivals in the new country were among the number who assisted in the defence of the town and surrounding country at the time. They established their homes there and there the grandfather died, and there the grandmother still resides at the age of eighty-seven years, and yet able to recite many of the early adventures of herself and husband in the strange and new land. Their early life was a hard one, as is the life of all pioneers, but they were determined to win in their struggle for a home for themselves and their children. In later years they became prominent and substantial residents of the community and had much to do with the development of that section of the country. They were educated and highly refined people, whose influence had much to do with the general social and moral condition of their home district. The maternal grandparents were also natives of Germany, where they too had been educated, and had later left the land of their nativity to seek a home in America. They were among the early settlers of New Ulm and had much to do with the general development of that vicinity. They were a most estimable people and soon became identified with the interests of their new home. The grandfather was drowned, many years ago, in the river at New Ulm while getting lumber from the water.

P. J. and Margaret Heinen received their education in the schools of their home county, where they grew to maturity and were later married. The marriage ceremony was performed by Father Berkholz, who had also baptized them when they were children. Father Berkholz was a man of more than ordinary ability and influence and had much to do with the moral and social life of his charge. His kindly disposition and commanding manner were sources of inspiration to many and he was the guiding force for good in the new settlement. Protestant and Catholic alike honoring and respecting him. The interests of the people of New Ulm and of the surrounding country were his interests, and he entered into the pleasures and the sorrows of the pioneers with more than a passing feeling. He had much to do with the general prosperity and development of that section of the state and many a man and woman who knew Father Berkholz still call him blessed. His life was a model of Christian fortitude and of good and noble

deeds, and to him, perhaps as much as to any other man, was due the success and prosperity of the new settlement.

As a young man P. J. Heinen engaged in the grain business, and in this he has successfully engaged during his life. He is now located at Wabasso, Redwood county, Minnesota, where he and his estimable wife reside and where they are held in high esteem. Their lives have been spent in the state of their nativity and they have seen much of the wild waste of land transformed into beautiful farms, with well-cultivated fields and splendid homes. Where once the primeval forests covered the territory is now seen fields of golden grain and herds of the finest of cattle and droves of the best of hogs. The territory, once the haunt of wild animals and the dwelling place of the savage redman is today the home of a happy and prosperous people. Highly developed schools and colleges now take the place of the pioneer school held in the old log school house. Roads are now seen where once was but a winding trail, over which the ox-team slowly plodded along. Today automobiles course along the well-built roads at the speed of a passenger train. In all this development the families of both Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Heinen had an important part. Mr. and Mrs. Heinen are devout members of the Catholic church and their lives are evidence of a careful Christian training. They are the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Minnie, the wife of Val P. Jennings.

A. P. Heinen received his education in the schools of Comfrey and in the high school at Springfield, Minnesota. After completing his work in the high school he entered a drug store, where he remained for three years as a clerk. He then entered the business college at Mankato, Minnesota, where he completed the commercial course. Thus equipped, he then entered the State Bank of Felton, as assistant cashier, and after two months in that institution was promoted to the teller's window. He later became teller at the First National Bank at Ada, Minnesota, where he remained for three and a half years, at the end of which time he assisted in the organization of the First State Bank of Lockhart, which was opened for business on August 1, 1915. At a meeting of the board of directors Mr. Heinen was selected for the important and responsible position of cashier, which position he now holds. This bank, in addition to doing a general banking business, is also engaged in the real-estate business. As cashier of the new institution, Mr. Heinen has met with a marked degree of success and has won the confidence and respect of the entire community by reason of his

courteous attention to the patrons of the bank, and his business-like methods. Under his guiding hand the institution has shown a marked increase of business, and is today recognized as one of the substantial business institutions of the county.

On July 7, 1913, A. P. Heinen was united in marriage to Julia Remark, of Ada, Minnesota, the daughter of Andrew Remark and wife, prominent people of that community. Mrs. Heinen received her education in the schools of her home town and is a woman of refinement and culture. Mr. and Mrs. Heinen are the parents of two children, Marvel and Howard.

Mr. Heinen is chairman of the school board of Lockhart and is an ardent advocate of good schools, it being due to him, probably more than to anyone else, that the recent consolidation of schools in that district was effected, thus giving to Lockhart a system of schools second to none in the county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Heinen are prominent in the social life of the town and have many friends there.

EMIL BAUER.

Emil Bauer, well-known farmer and stockman, owner of a compact farm of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land in Pleasant View township, Norman county, was born in the state of Indiana, in the city of Evansville, in 1864, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was ten years old. He is a son of Ceausandt Bauer and wife, who came to the state of Minnesota in an early day.

Ceausandt Bauer, father of the subject of this sketch, lived in Evansville, Indiana, for a considerable period, working at his trade as a carpenter, following the same occupation when he went to reside at Red Wing, this state. At the latter place he also became the owner of a tract of land, which was sold subsequently. He died about 1875, at the age of forty-two years. His widow died in 1880, at the age of fifty-two years. They were the parents of the following children: Albert, deceased; Ben, who is married and lives in Minneapolis; Yetta, deceased; Lizzie, who is married and lives in Wisconsin; George C., referred to in another part of this volume, and Emil, the subject of this sketch.

Emil Bauer was educated in the schools at Red Wing, this state, and was reared on his father's place, working at farm labor for some time. In 1880 he moved to Norman county and continued farming work. In 1889 he ac-

quired a holding of his own and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land in section 16, Pleasant View township. He immediately set to work to improve this place, fenced it and erected outbuildings of a substantial character, and is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, the stock being of high grade, and he is generally recognized as one of the well-to-do farmers in this part of the township. His farm plant is of the most modern character and includes a tractor. A number of fine horses are to be found on the farm and a blooded bull is among the stock.

In 1894 Emil Bauer was united in marriage to Frances Mackel, who was born in 1875 at Red Wing, this state, and whose parents are deceased. To this union the following children have been born: Winifred, living at home; Mrs. Florence Trichel, living north of her father's place, and Alice, Bertha, Helen and Irene, all at home. The Bauer family are members of the German Lutheran church, of which congregation Mr. Bauer was for some years an officer. He is now treasurer of the school board and has served as a member of the board for many years, his interest in educational matters being the subject of praiseworthy comment in the community in which he has resided almost forty years.

HENRY DAHL.

Henry Dahl, one of the well-known and substantial farmers of Shelly township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was fourteen years of age. He was born on April 1, 1861, son of Iver and Bertha (Steelin) Dahl, both also natives of that country, who spent all their lives there. Iver Dahl was a farmer and fisherman, his home having been by the sea. He and his wife were the parents of eight children, Cornelius, Bertha, Henry, Gina, Andreas, Iver, Rasmus, and Anne. Cornelius Dahl was a contractor and captain of a sailing vessel in Norway. Bertha Gurina is still living in her native land and is now a widow.

When he was fourteen years of age Henry Dahl was brought to this country by kinsmen and before coming to Minnesota worked on farms in Illinois and in Iowa. For seven years also he was engaged in driving a mail route. About 1887 he came to Minnesota and has ever since been a resident of the Red River country, long having been the owner of the farm on which he is now living in Shelly township. In 1880, in Traill county, North

Dakota, just before that then territory was admitted to statehood, he married Lena Hauge and later established his home in Norman county, where he ever since has resided and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of Holstein cattle and has done well in his operations.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dahl three children have been born. One daughter, Bertina, died when she was fifteen years of age. Two sons, Hartvig and Edwin, both are at home, valued assistants in the labors of the home farm. Mr. Dahl also has a step-daughter, Mrs. A. R. Laurie, who lives now in Montana.

AUGUST MAAS.

Among the worthy natives of Germany who settled in this country was the late August Maas, who was born on April 2, 1857. He received his education in the land of his nativity and, after reaching his maturity, decided to come to America, where he felt there was a better opportunity for the young man without financial backing. On his arrival in this country, in 1879, he located near Red Wing, Minnesota, where he worked until 1881, when he came to Norman county, and here worked on the Lockhart farm for a time. In 1886 he established a general store at Rolette, one and a half miles north of Lockhart. His was the only store that was ever there, and he was also the postmaster of the place. He remained in business there until 1901 and met with a large degree of success. In the fall of that year he moved to Lockhart and there established a general store, which he operated until the time of his death on January 15, 1915.

In addition to attending to his business duties, Mr. Maas took much interest in the affairs of his home town, and being a man of education, ability and excellent judgment, his advice and counsel were often sought on matters that pertained to the welfare of the community in which he lived, and with which he had so much to do and in which he took so much interest. Few men in the district were better able to cope with the matters pertaining to the interests of the public than was Mr. Maas. His early training, his education and his lifelong interest in public affairs made him a leader and an adviser, in whom all had the greatest confidence and respect. He was a hard worker and one who paid strict attention to his business affairs and the affairs of the public while holding the offices to which the people had elected him. He gave the same careful care and attention to his official acts



MRS. AND MISS AGOST MAN.



that he gave to his own business, feeling that to the public he owed a duty that could only be fulfilled by giving his best efforts.

August Maas and wife were the parents of two children, Carl F. and Olive A. Mrs. Maas was a most estimable woman, who was held in the highest regard and esteem by her associates and those who knew her. Her death occurred on August 13, 1914, five months before that of her husband. She was a devoted mother and a loving wife, whose only thought was of the happiness of her home and the good that she might do to others. Mrs. Maas was a devout member of the Catholic church and reared her family in the faith of that denomination, her life having been lived in the true Christian spirit and in well-doing.

Olive A. Maas received her education in the home schools and now lives in Lockhart, where she has many friends who appreciate her pleasing manners and womanly traits. Carl F. Maas also received his education in the schools of Norman county and in the business college at Grand Forks. After completing his schooling he returned to his home town and entered into business with his father, and since the latter's death he has conducted the extensive business with much success. On March 23, 1914, he was appointed postmaster of his home town and has since filled that position with much ability. In his store he has a large and complete line of groceries, hardware and implements. On May 1, 1916, Mr. Maas was united in marriage to Anna Schnitz, of Grand Forks, North Dakota. She, as well as her husband, is an active member of the Catholic church at Ada and both are active in the social life of the community.

OLE L. GARDEN.

Ole L. Garden, one of the best known and largest landholders of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of six hundred and eighty acres of excellent land and where he is closely connected with the religious, educational and co-operative business interests of the community in which he has lived ever since he came to this county, was born in Norway, September 5, 1841, a son of Lars and Regena (Kjolseth) Garden. They were both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, married and reared their children. They immigrated to America in 1870 and first located in St. Peter, Nicollet county, Minnesota, where the father's death

occurred. There he worked on the railroad, rented land for farming and did anything he could find to do. After his death, his widow came with her son, Ole L., to Norman county, Minnesota, where she took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Waukon township, in 1878. She lived here for a time and later she died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ole Ottes, in Polk county, this state. The old homestead, which the mother took, is now occupied by her son, John Garden. She and her husband, Lars Garden, were the parents of four children, all of whom are still living: John, Ole, Martha, the wife of Torger Havelson, and Lena, who married Ole Ottes.

Ole L. Garden acquired his early education in the schools of Norway, and in that country he remained until he reached the age of twenty-eight years. At that time he decided that America held for him the long-awaited opportunity to become the holder of considerable land. Accordingly, he immigrated to this country in 1869 and settled at St. Peter, Nicollet county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1878. In that year he joined a small party of settlers whose destination was the same as his and, driving his plodding oxen, which he had yoked to his covered wagon, he arrived in Norman county after a tiresome journey of five weeks. On June 16 of that year he located on his present farm in Bear Park township. He immediately filed a homestead claim for the one hundred and sixty acres, which has continued to be his home since. Mr. Garden's farming operations have been very successful and he has, from time to time, been enabled to add to his holdings until now he is the owner of six hundred and eighty acres, all improved with fine buildings and a comfortable farm house. Here he carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture.

On July 3, 1871, seven years before he came northward into Norman county, Mr. Garden married, at St. Peter, Nicollet county, Marie O. Dahl, who was born in Norway, August 13, 1846, a daughter of Ole and Kary Dahl, the former of whom is a brother of Nils O. Dahl, mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Garden are the parents of seven children, namely: Lewis, Christina, Regena, Olaf, John, Osvold and Martin. Mr. and Mrs. Garden are active in the church work of the community, being members of the St. Peter Lutheran church of Strand township. The former helped to organize this congregation before it had a church edifice, meetings being held in the homes of the members and in school houses. Later, the church was permanently located where it still stands in Strand township. Mr. Garden has always been a prominent participant in the civil and common business affairs of the community. He was a member of the meeting convened for the purpose of organizing Bear Park township into a civil unit

of the county. He has held several local offices of trust, being for many years township supervisor, treasurer of the township for some years and school treasurer for eighteen years. He was a member of the first township board. He was a leading spirit in the organization of the Farmers Elevator Company at Gary and also helped establish the Bear Park Mercantile Company.

Osvold Garden, a son of Ole L. Garden, the subject of this review, was born on the home place, where he now lives, December 16, 1881. He received his formal education in the local public schools and has always lived on the home place. Here he carries on general farming, and has important interests in the co-operative business agencies of this locality, being a stockholder in three stores, the Waukon, Bear Park and Sundahl mercantile companies.

FRED L. SKAURUD.

Fred L. Skaurud, one of Norman county's most progressive farmers and stockmen and the proprietor of a fine farm in the township of Lake Ida, was born on a farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, but has been a resident of Norman county since he was thirteen years of age, having come here with his parents in 1881, and therefore very properly may be accounted one of the real pioneers of the county. He was born on May 10, 1868, son of John O. and Martha (Monson) Skaurud, natives of Norway, who were married in Iowa and who became pioneers of Norman county in 1881, settling on a quarter of a section of land in Lake Ida township which Mr. Skaurud had bought in 1879, a part of the place now owned by the subject of this sketch, who has resided there ever since he came to the Red River country with his parents in 1881, the year in which Norman county became a separate civic unit. On another page in this volume there is set out at some length the story of the coming of John O. Skaurud and family to Minnesota and that story need not be repeated in this connection, the reader being respectfully invited to refer to the same for further particulars of a genealogical nature relating to the Skauruds.

As noted above, Fred L. Skaurud, the second of the surviving sons of John O. Skaurud and wife, was but thirteen years of age when he came up into this part of the country with his parents and his schooling was completed in the early schools established in the neighborhood of the Skaurud home in Lake Ida township. After his father's death he continued the man-

agement of the home farm and in time became the owner of the same. As time passed and as he prospered in his operations he further improved the place, bringing it up to modern requirements, erected new and excellent buildings, installed a waterworks and electric-light plant and in other ways improved the place until he now has one of the best farm plants in the county. For the past twenty years Mr. Skaurud has made a specialty of the breeding of Percheron horses and in that connection has done much to improve the strain of draft animals throughout this part of the state. For the past ten years or more he also has given much attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and has a fine herd, while for the past five years he has gone in also rather heavily for Poland China swine and has done well in that line. For nearly thirty years Mr. Skaurud has been a member of the local school board, with brief intermissions of service, and also was treasurer of his home township for some time. In the general business affairs of the community he also has taken an active and influential interest, helped organize the Lake Ida Farmers Telephone Company, in which he still is a stockholder; helped organize the Twin Valley Creamery Association, in which he also is a stockholder, and is interested in the Equity packing plant at Fargo and in the Equity Co-operative Exchange at St. Paul. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community of which they have been a part since pioneer days.

On October 26, 1886, Fred L. Skaurud was united in marriage to Eliza Erickson, daughter of Anton and Goro (Anderson) Erickson, pioneers of this part of Minnesota, and to this union have been born ten children, all of whom are living, namely: Minnie, wife of Henry Lein; Mary, wife of Ole M. Undeland, and Francis, Emma, Anton, Ruby, Albert, Freddie, Martin and Adaline, who are at home.

Anton Erickson, father of Mrs. Skaurud, is a native of Norway, as is his wife. He married in 1864 and in 1868 came to this country and settled in Rice county, this state, where he remained until 1874, in which year he moved up here into the Red River country and became one of the first settlers in the Swedish Grove settlement, taking there a quarter-section homestead. In 1882 he bought a tract of forty acres in Lake Ida township, Norman county, and two years later moved onto this latter place, where he and his wife are still living. To that original "forty" Mr. Erickson later added an adjoining tract of one hundred and twenty acres and is now the owner of a well-improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is being farmed

by his youngest son, Peter. Mr. and Mrs. Erickson have nine children, namely: Jensena, wife of Ed. Evans; Adolph, of Greenbush, this state; Andrew, of Upham, North Dakota; Mary, wife of Erick Erickson; Eliza, wife of Mr. Skaurud; Ida, wife of John J. Lindback; Nettie, wife of Henry O. Skaurud; Gilbert, of Upham, North Dakota, and Peter, who is farming the home place.

FREDERICK F. TUFTE.

Frederick F. Tufte, who came to this country with no capital except rugged health and the determination to make good in this new land, and is now the proprietor of two hundred acres of fine farming land in Mary township, Norman county, where he lives, was born in Norway, July 17, 1863, a son of Frederick and Maren (Ramners) Tufte, both natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives. The father was born in 1824 and died seven years ago at the ripe old age of eighty-six years, and the mother was born in 1831 and is now living in her native land, at the advanced age of eighty-six. The senior Frederick Tufte and his wife were the parents of ten children, namely: John, Mathew and Jens, deceased; Selma, who is married and is living in Norway; Frederick, the subject of this review; Hans, who is married and rents land in Mary township, Norman county; Ole, who is working in Oregon; Martine, who is residing in Norway; Invalg, who is living in Norway on the old home place, and Ludwig, who is living in Canada.

Reared on the old home place in his native land across the Atlantic, Frederick F. Tufte received his early education in the common schools of Norway. After he had reached the age of twenty-two years, he decided to leave the home of his fathers and come to America where he could give full play to his bounding ambition. Accordingly, in the year 1885, he landed at New York City alone and there soon found employment as a sailor in the coastwise trade. In the following year he came to Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand in the neighborhood of Ada, Norman county, for a period of five years, after which period he returned to Norway to claim his bride. Immediately after his marriage he returned to America, bought property in Ada, where he did teaming and worked on the railroad for seven years. By this time he had acquired enough capital and had chosen this section of the country as the site of his farming operations, hence he and his family moved out to the farm which he owns at present in Mary township,

renting the same for seven years. At the end of this time he decided that this tract of land was suited for his farming purposes and he bought it, after selling his property in Ada. Here he has improved the land, erecting new buildings and improving the old ones until he has one of the best farming plants in the neighborhood.

It was on March 26th, 1891, when Mr. Tufte was united in marriage to Tora Bey after he had returned to his native land, and to his union one child was born, a son, Harold, who is married and is living in section 9, on land which he rents from Nels Hagen. Tora (Bey) Tufte was born in Norway, May 18, 1867, a daughter of Olavs Berg. Sometime after her death at Ada on April 6, 1898, Mr. Tufte was married to Anna Krohsus, who was born in Minnesota, November 22, 1875, a daughter of Halvor Anderson, whose biography appears on another page. By his second wife, Mr. Tufte was the father of six children, namely: Frederick, at home; Herbert, living with his half-brother, Harold; Clara, Martin, Hans and Merkle, all at home. On October 16, 1914, occurred the death of Mr. Tufte's second wife and since that time he has remained on the home place with his children. He is a devoted member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in this faith he has reared his children. Mr. Tufte is a member of the Nonpartisan League, and although he takes a deep interest in the civic affairs of his community, he has never sought office.

S. P. ANDERSON.

The Anderson family, of which S. P. Anderson, well-known farmer and business man of Tansen township, Clay county, is a most creditable representative, has been one of the influential and highly esteemed families in Clay county for a number of decades, and their commendable record is worthy of a place within these pages.

The gentleman whose name forms the caption of this sketch, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, December 28, 1870. He is a son of Brede and Ellen Martha (Berri) Anderson Stromnes, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1868, when they came to America and located in Winneshiek county, Iowa. In 1872 they made the overland trip from there to Clay county, Minnesota, with an ox team and covered wagon, the trip requiring three weeks. They located in section 8, Tansen township, and there pre-empted forty acres and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres. They developed a good farm there by hard work

and perseverance. The mother's death occurred on the home place there in 1903. The father returned to Norway in 1910 and is still living there. He became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land, on which he put the first buildings. He helped organize the township of Tansem, also helped organize the Grog Lutheran church, was at one time township supervisor, and was one of the useful and influential men in his locality during his residence here. He became the father of eleven children, the first two of whom born in Norway, the next two in Iowa, and the others on the homestead in Tansem township, namely: Brent Edwin, Andrew, Erick (deceased), Solomon Peter, Albert Julius, Marie (deceased), John August, Emma, Petra Marie (deceased), Elias and Tideman (deceased).

S. P. Anderson was two years old when his parents brought him to Clay county and he grew to manhood here on the home farm. He received his education in the rural schools of Tansem township, then studied one year at Hope Academy at Moorhead and two years at Concordia College in that city. After leaving school he located on the farm on which he still resides in Tansem township. In 1902 he went to North Dakota and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, but he changed the homestead to a pre-emption title and, after residing on his land eighteen months, returned to Clay county and now owns a well-improved and valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres in Tansem township. He has put on all the improvements himself. He has a large, comfortable farm house and a splendid group of outbuildings. He raises a large quantity of grain, much of which he feeds to live stock. He is a breeder of full-blooded Red Polled cattle.

Mr. Anderson is one of the substantial men of Tansem township and besides his large farming business he is interested in various industries. He assisted in organizing the Farmers Elevator Company of Barnesville, of which he is now president. He also helped organize the Barnesville Co-operative Creamery Company, of which he is now secretary. He has been interested in its success, as he is in all co-operative efforts among farmers, and does his best, in a small way, that they may become successes. He also assisted in organizing the Rollag Telephone Company and was secretary of the same during the first five years of its existence. He has just retired from the presidency of the Park Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which office he held for fourteen years. He has been a stockholder in the last two companies and has done much to make them what they are today.

Mr. Anderson was married in 1899 to Marie Erickson, who was born on the Hanson homestead in Tansem township, where she grew to woman-

hood, receiving her education in the local public schools. She is a daughter of Erick Hanson, who was one of the early settlers in Tansem township, where he homesteaded land and where he became very comfortably established through his industry. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson: Ellen Martha, Edgar Berge and Alfred Nordal. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Non-Partisan League. He has served as justice of the peace and also as township assessor, filling both offices in an able, faithful and highly acceptable manner. He belongs to the Rollag Lutheran church at Rollag.

John A. Anderson, brother of the subject of this sketch, although not now at present a resident of Clay county, is deserving of mention in these pages. He is one of the successful scientists of the West. He was educated in Concordia College at Moorhead, later attended the State Normal School in that city and later was a student in the Northern Indiana Normal School (now the University of Valparaiso). He then took a course in Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, from which he received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, specializing in astronomy and physics. He became widely known as an expert in these branches and for some time was head of the department of these sciences in Johns Hopkins University, and is now employed at the Wilson Solar Observatory at Pasadena, California.

NELS BECKMAN BAGNE.

The kingdom of Norway has given to Norman county, Minnesota, some splendid men and women who have had much to do with the social, religious, financial and civic life of the state as well as the county. To the sturdy Norwegians who have left their native land and established their homes in a new land and amid new conditions and among strange people, is due much honor for the success that they have attained. They have played a conspicuous role and have had a large part in the development of the great state of Minnesota. The examples of their thrift and energy, the sturdiness of their race and the fervor of their religious belief, have been beneficially scattered throughout the state, whose growth and development are marvels. Among the worthy sons of Norway who represent those elements in the industrial and financial life of Norman county that count for high purpose and great achievement, is Nels Beckman Bagne, cashier of the First State Bank of Gary.



MR. AND MRS. NELS B. BAGNE.

Nels Beckman Bagne was born on May 14, 1880, the son of Knut and Gjertina Bagne, who were also natives of Norway and were there educated in the public schools, grew to manhood and womanhood and were there married. For some years after their marriage they continued to live in the land of their nativity, but being of a progressive and energetic class, their fondest hopes were based on the possession of a substantial home for themselves and those dependent upon them, and in the year 1881 they decided that they would leave the land where they had spent so many happy years and seek a home in faraway America. On their arrival in the United States in June, 1881, they at once proceeded on out to Minnesota and remained for a few months at Ada, after which they moved to Heiberg, also in Norman county, where Mr. Bagne was employed in the mills for two years. Having by this time become acquainted with conditions in the country, Mr. Bagne pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land two miles west of the village of Gary, which he developed and improved and there remained engaged in general farming until 1896. He then moved to Waukon township, eight miles east of Gary, where he successfully engaged in farming until 1903, in which year he and Mrs. Bagne moved to Verndale, Minnesota, where Mr. Bagne engaged in the flour-milling business for about three years, at the end of which time he disposed of the mill property and located at Mahanomen, county seat of the adjoining county of that name, where he is engaged in the meat business.

To Knut and Gjertina Bagne the following children have been born: Sever, Nels, Alfred, Gena, William, John, Anna, an infant, Martha, Sarah, Clara and Joseph, all of whom are still living with the exceptions of Sever and the infant. Martha and Sarah are twins. Mr. and Mrs. Bagne are active members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken much interest in all religious work. They are a most estimable couple and because of their sterling worth and pleasing personalities they have won for themselves many friends who hold them in the highest regard and esteem. Their lives have been active ones and they have devoted their best efforts to the interests of their family and the communities in which they have lived. Mr. Bagne has always taken an interest in the civic life of his home community and while he has not been a seeker after office his best efforts have been exerted in behalf of the selection of the best men to administer the affairs of the public, and is today recognized as one of the prominent and substantial men of his home city.

Nels Beckman Bagne received his schooling in the schools of Norman county and was reared on the home farm. He early engaged in teaching

in his home county and for seven years was one of the most successful teachers in this section of the state. Feeling the dignity of his calling and the need of his service to the county, he gave his best efforts to his work. His success as a teacher attracted the attention of the officials of the First State Bank of Gary to his excellent work and in 1907 he entered that institution as assistant cashier. In 1913 he became cashier of the bank, which position he now holds. His business-like management of the bank and his courteous treatment of the general public have won for him the confidence and praise of the people of the county. In addition to his duties as cashier of the bank, Mr. Bagne is also treasurer of the Gary Creamery Company, treasurer of the Peoples Supply Company and treasurer of the Gary Telephone Company. His interest in the civic life of the town won for him the office of treasurer of the village and in this official capacity he is giving the people a splendid administration. Mr. Bagne's life is a busy one, yet he finds time to give the closest care and attention to all the duties that have been imposed upon him. He is conscious of the honor and trust that have been given him and feels that his best efforts should be given in return. To him is due much of the fine financial spirit of the town, and his best efforts are ever directed toward a better and larger Gary. Local civic pride has been strengthened by his activities and today the schools, churches, business institutions and public improvements of Gary are second to none, for a place of its size in this part of the state.

On May 14, 1913, Nels Beckman Bagne was united in marriage to Bella Georgina Knutson and to this union two children have been born, Ardith Geraldine and Kermit Kasson. Mr. and Mrs. Bagne are prominent members of the United Lutheran church and are liberal subscribers to the support of the local society. They have long been active in the social life of the community and are held in the highest regard by all.

REINHART W. WILKINS.

One of the native sons of Norman county, who have met with success in their chosen profession and have won distinction in the local business world, is Reinhart W. Wilkins, a well-known grain buyer of Lockhart, who was born in Pleasant township, Norman county, in 1885, the son of William and Augusta (Treichel) Wilkins, who were born in Germany and who came to the United States as young man and woman and settled in Goodhue

county, Minnesota. There they were married and established their home in the new land. They remained in Goodhue county until the year 1881, when they came to Norman county, being among the first settlers on the broad prairies and wooded tracts. They knew that the life would be a hard one, yet they were determined to obtain a home for themselves in the rich farming and grazing country. Mr. Wilkinson homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land and built a small house in which the family lived for a number of years. The place was in time developed and improved and what was once a useless waste was transformed into a highly cultivated tract, where grows the golden grain and where roam herds of the finest of cattle and droves of splendid hogs. All this required much work and patience, but with it all came success and the knowledge that much had been accomplished. As he prospered, Mr. Wilkins made many substantial improvements to the farm and added to the original tract eighty acres, making him an ideal farm of two hundred and forty acres, where he and his wife still reside, enjoying many of the comforts of life to which their hard work and economy have entitled them.

In their struggle for a home in a new land and among strangers and amid new conditions, William and Augusta Wilkins, were never forgetful of their duty to society and their church. From childhood they were reared in the faith of the Lutheran church and in their new home they were faithful to the teachings of their youth. From the time of their entry into the life of the county they were ever solicitous regarding the establishment of good schools and churches, wherein their children might be educated and worship God. They were energetic, frugal and industrious and early entered into the spirit of their adopted country, becoming patriotic and highly respected residents of Norman county. They are the parents of seven children, namely: Bertha, Reinhart W., John, Anna, Tena, Fred and Lillian.

Reinhart W. Wilkins received his education in the public schools of his home county and was reared on the home farm. He remained at home until he reached manhood and for two years engaged in general farming. His desire from boyhood had been for a business career and when the opportunity presented itself for him to take charge of the elevator at Hadler he accepted it. He remained there for two years and met with much success, becoming thoroughly conversant with the management of the business. In 1914 he moved to Lockhart to become manager of the St. Anthony & North Dakota Elevator Company and still holds that position.

In the same year in which he moved to Lockhart, R. W. Wilkins was united in marriage to Ottela Bartz, daughter of Julius Bartz and wife, prom-

inent people of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins are active members of the Lutheran church and take a deep interest in the social, religious and educational life of the town, where they are held in high regard and esteem. Mr. Wilkins has always taken a keen interest in the civic life of his home community, as has his father, who has served as assessor for many years, and has given efficient service on the school board. R. W. Wilkins is now a member of the local school board and is one of the progressive and prominent members. To him is due much of the credit for the establishment of the consolidated high school and for the erection of the splendid modern building which is the pride of the town and the surrounding country.

OSCAR STADUM.

One of the most progressive and promising of the younger farmers of Clay county is Oscar Stadum, of Tansem township, who has been contented to remain "under the roof that heard his earliest cry," which the poet Tennyson says is a privilege that we should all highly appreciate, for there are pleasures about the old home place that we cannot find elsewhere in the world.

Mr. Stadum was born on the farm on which he now lives in Tansem township, Clay county, August 25, 1888. He is a son of Andrew and Marie (Hoveland) Stadum, both natives of Norway. The father came to America when young in years and located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, his parents accompanying him. Marie Hoveland was also young when her parents brought her to America, the family locating in Iowa, later removing to Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where her parents still reside. The Stadum family removed from Fillmore county to Clay county, the parents locating on the farm which is now owned by their grandson, Oscar, the subject of this sketch, and here they spent the rest of their lives, dying many years ago. Andrew Stadum helped develop this farm and here he spent the rest of his life, dying some time ago. He was the father of two children, Matilda and Oscar. After his death his widow remarried, her last husband being Ole Stoen, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Peter and Marin Stadum, the paternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, where they resided until about 1875, when they brought their family to Minnesota. They remained about two years in Fillmore county, then came to the farm of one hundred and sixty

acres which the subject of this review is now occupying. They developed the land from the wild prairie to a good farm, erected buildings and set out a large grove. Peter Stadum helped organize the local Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole and Anna Hoveland, the maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch, were natives of Norway, where they grew up and were married. They came to America in the seventies and after spending a few years in Iowa came to Minnesota, locating in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county, where they took up a homestead embracing a quarter section, and there Mr. Hoveland died. His widow is still living in that township. They were parents of fourteen children. They helped organize the Norwegian Lutheran church there.

Oscar Stadum grew to manhood on the home farm where he has always lived. When he became of proper age he assisted with the general work on the farm during the crop seasons, in the winter time attending the district schools. The place consists of one hundred and sixty acres and he has kept the same under a fine state of cultivation and improvement, carrying on general and mixed farming, raising grain and live stock for the markets.

In 1912 Oscar Stadum was married to Ella Solum, who was born in Norway. She is a daughter of Hans Hendrickson and wife, natives of Norway, from which country they came to Minnesota when their daughter Ella was a child, and settled in Tansen township, Clay county. Ella later became the adopted daughter of Ole H. Solum, a biographical sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. Three children have been born to Oscar Stadum and wife, namely: Arnold, Margaret and Stella. Mr. Stadum is a Republican and is clerk of the school board in his district at this writing. He belongs to the Norwegian Lutheran church.

OLE JENSON OLIN.

Before settling down to the orderly life of a farmer, Ole Jensen Olin had a varied career at various occupations in several states, including Illinois, Iowa, the Dakotas, Minnesota and Montana, and this notwithstanding that he is a native-born Swede, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-one years of age. Mr. Olin was born in the kingdom of Sweden on February 8, 1862, a son of Jens and Buel (Hanson) Olson, both born in that same country, where they spent all their lives and where Jens

Olson was a farmer during his active life. They were the parents of the following children: Anders, Marie, Ole J., Hans and Elma, all of whom are living, and two other children who died young.

Ole J. Olin was educated in the schools of Sweden and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the work of cultivating the land until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1883, he decided to seek his fortune in the United States. On his arrival in this country he proceeded directly to Naporseth, Illinois, and worked in that place for four months at harness-making, which trade he had learned in Sweden. He also had learned the shoe-making trade. He then moved to Geno, Nebraska, and worked during two summers at railroad construction. He then went with three companions to Sioux City, Iowa, driving their mules to that city and selling them there. His next move was to Glyndon, Minnesota, to visit his brother, Andrew; following which he went to Ada, where he worked on farms and on the river in Lake Ida township, remaining in that place for two years. He then crossed to South Dakota and worked at railroad grading, going thence to Black River, Wisconsin, and worked hauling logs in the lumber woods. The next move was to Minot, North Dakota, where he worked on the construction of the Great Northern railroad, and from Minot he proceeded to Great Falls, Montana, finally returning to Benson, Minnesota, and worked near that place on railroad construction.

Finally, Mr. Olin came back to Norman county, where he had a few years previously bought one hundred and sixty acres of land, and commenced to farm. Later he rented a tract of land near his one hundred and sixty acre farm and lived on the rented land. He then built a dwelling house and has since resided here. He is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of prime land and is engaged in general farming, meeting with much success. He has put up some fine buildings on the home place and has laid out a grove, which enhances the value and appearance of the holding to a considerable extent. He is also the owner of one hundred and sixty acres near Wheatville and is regarded as one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the district.

About 1891 Ole J. Olin was united in marriage to Mamie Hopkins, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of Frank Hopkins and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Olin are the parents of the following children: Ray, who is now serving in the United States navy; Jay, also in the United States navy; Russell, serving in the marines, and Lawrence, Irene, Ellen, Ellis and Elsie, who are at home with their parents. Mr. Olin is a member of the Lutheran church and his wife is a member of the Congregational church. Mr. Olin formerly

served on the school board. In April, 1914, he made a trip to his old home in Sweden and spent three months in that country, returning on the "Mauritania," which was the last boat to leave England before the outbreak of the European war.

ALBERT ANDERSON.

Albert Anderson, a substantial farmer and landowner living in Hendrum township, Norman county, was born three miles south of Scandinavia, Waupaca county, Wisconsin, November 1, 1861, the son of Andrew Anderson and Mary (Hanson) Rustad, the latter being the second wife. Both parents were natives of Norway, and came to America about 1850, settling in Muskego, Wisconsin, where they married and lived for about three years. In 1853, they moved to Waupaca county, Wisconsin, where they bought government land and lived until 1877, in the meantime their son, Albert, the subject of this review, having been born. Feeling that better opportunities in farming awaited them over in Minnesota, the family started for the Red River country on June 14, 1877, in a covered wagon drawn by four horses, and arrived after a journey of some time at their destination in Hendrum township, in what later came to be organized as Norman county. There they settled on school land in section 36, township 144, Norman county, range 49, where their son Martin now lives, and there they remained the rest of their lives. As prosperity smiled upon the endeavors of the family, the elder Rustad added to his holdings until he owned three hundred and sixty acres, which he improved by the erection of substantial farm buildings. To these parents were born the following children: Carrie, Bertha M. (deceased), Christ, Albert, Clara, Edwin, Martin, Gena, and William (deceased). The family were active members of the Lutheran church and the father helped to organize the Emanuel church at Hendrum.

Albert Anderson, who has lived in Hendrum township since he came to Norman county, in 1877, was educated in the common schools of Wisconsin and in the pioneer schools of Hendrum township, where he spent his youth and early manhood on the home place. In 1886 he left the parental roof and started for himself, and his operations were so successful that eventually he became the owner of six hundred acres of land. This area was all raw prairie, but, nothing daunted, he began to improve it by erecting good farm buildings and planting groves. As the opportunity presented

itself, he sold from his holdings until now he has two hundred and fifty acres on which he raises stock and does general farming.

On June 14, 1887, Albert Anderson married Anna Stevens, who was born in Norway on September 22, 1863, the daughter of Stev and Mary Stevens, who came to America in 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have no children of their own, but they have one adopted daughter, Evelyn.

Mr. Anderson, being a farmer, is desirous of good roads, and did much to establish and keep the same in repair when he served the community as road overseer. In addition to this commendable work, he has been interested in extending the credit facilities of Hendrum township, by helping to organize the Farmers State Bank. Moreover, he is numbered among the progressive farmers of the township who are interested in the farmers elevator and creamery.

HANS J. HELLERUD.

Hans J. Hellerud, a retired pioneer farmer of Norman county and for the past ten years engaged in the clothing business at Twin Valley, one of the best-known and most progressive merchants of that village, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was sixteen years of age and of Norman county since 1877, thus being very properly regarded as one of the real "old settlers" of this section of the state, he having located here three or four years before Norman county was organized as a civil unit. He was born at Haakadalen, in Norway, January 27, 1855, son of John and Marie (Grummenson) Hellerud, also natives of Norway, who came to the United States with their family in 1871 and settled in Fillmore county, this state. There John Hellerud developed a good piece of farm property and continued to make that place his home until his retirement in old age and removal to Norman county, where his last days were spent. He and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in the faith of the same. There were nine of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the other being Olena, Gustav, Andrew, Bertha, Johanna, Nettie, Carl and Jens.

As noted above, Hans J. Hellerud was sixteen years of age when he came to this county with his parents and his schooling was completed in the schools of Fillmore county, this state. He took an active part in the

HANS J. HELEBERG AND FAMILY.



work of developing and improving the home farm in that county and remained there until 1877, in which year he came up here in the Red River valley and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 4 of what later came to be organized as Hagne township, Norman county, where he established his home and proceeded to develop and improve the place. From the very beginning of his operations here Mr. Hellerud prospered and he gradually added to his land holdings until he became the owner of an entire section of land. In 1906 he traded four hundred acres of that place for a clothing store at Twin Valley and in 1908 moved to that village and has since made his home there, actively engaged in business. Mr. Hellerud has ever given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and during his residence on the farm served for some time as a member of the board of supervisors, for two years chairman of the board, and also served for some time as treasurer of the township.

On February 20, 1882, H. J. Hellerud was united in marriage to Thora Olson, also a native of the kingdom of Norway, and to this union four children have been born, John, Oswell, Mary and Henry. The Helleruds are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community of which they have been residents since pioneer days.

JOHN JACOBSON.

John Jacobson, a successful merchant and a prominent resident of Borup, Norman county, was born in Marshall county, Iowa, June 22, 1882, the son of Severen and Julia (Peterson) Jacobson, both of whom were natives of Norway, the former having come to the United States at the age of eighteen and the latter at the age of four years. Severen Jacobson received his education in the schools of his native land, and as a lad engaged as a sailor. Tiring of the sea at an early age, he decided to seek his future home in America. On his arrival in the United States he at once proceeded on his journey to Iowa, and there he located in Marshall county, where his future wife had settled with her parents some years before. There he worked as a farm hand for some years and was later married, and soon thereafter he and his wife moved to Palo Alto county, Iowa, where they established their home on a farm and where Mr. Jacobson engaged in general farming

for twelve years. In the year 1903 they came to Minnesota and settled on a farm just west of the town of Borup, in Norman county. Severen Jacobson has met with much success in his chosen work and is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of splendid land, all of which is well under cultivation and well improved.

Severen and Julia Jacobson are the parents of the following children: Anna, Jennie, John, Lena, Martha, Clara and Peter. They are active members of the Lutheran church and are among the most highly respected people of the community. Their hospitality and pleasing address have endeared them to a large circle of friends. Mr. Jacobson is a man of strong personality and possessed of much business acumen. His splendid home and farm are the results of the work and planning of himself and his estimable wife. Coming to this country a mere lad, alone and without funds, he has risen to be one of the substantial and influential men of the community in which he lives. He has taken a keen interest in all local affairs, and is a strong advocate of substantial public improvements and of the maintenance of good roads and good schools. To his mind these two are great factors in determining the future greatness of both the county and the state.

John Jacobson received his education in the public schools of the state of Iowa and was reared on the home farm in that state. On reaching manhood he began work for himself, as an employe of the Great Northern railroad, at Barnesville, Minnesota, by working in the yards. After a time he resigned his position with the railroad and entered a harness shop at Fargo, as an apprentice, and after learning his trade he followed it for two years. He left Fargo and came to Borup, where he worked for six months as a clerk in the general store of Torske Brothers. He then entered the general store of E. K. Naftalin at Borup and there he worked for nine months, at the end of which time he and J. J. Bowlb purchased the business. This was in the year 1915 and they have since continued the business with success, under the firm name of Bowlb & Jacobson. They carry a complete and up-to-date line of general merchandise and have built up an extensive trade throughout the surrounding territory. These men are progressive and their store is an evidence of their ability as business men and merchants. They cater to the wants of the general public and their increased trade is evidence of the appreciation with which their business methods are received.

On June 23, 1910, John Jacobson was married to Emma Anderson, of Borup, daughter of A. J. Anderson and wife, prominent and well-to-do people of this community. To this union three children have been born, Angeline

Levina, Silas Philis and Pearl Berdell. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson are members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken much interest in all church work, and Mr. Jacobson has always been active in the civic affairs of the town.

Severen H. Jacobson, the father of John Jacobson, was born on November 6, 1849, and is the son of Jacob and Anna (Quaam) Jacobson, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died. Jacob Jacobson was a farmer and a small landowner. He and his wife were highly respected people and were the parents of eight children. The son Severen came to the United States in the year 1871 and for a time worked on a farm in Marshall county, Iowa. He later rented and then purchased eighty acres, which he later sold and moved to Palo Alto county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres. Here he lived until 1903 when he came to his present home west of Bortup. He was united in marriage in 1875 to Julia Peterson, the daughter of Peter and Gurnelia (Quaam) Peterson, who came to the United States from their home in Norway in 1861. They first located in Lee county, Illinois, and then in Marshall county, Iowa. Mr. Peterson died in Illinois, and after the marriage of her daughter, the widow made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson and moved with them to Palo Alto county, where she died. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson were the parents of five children. To Severen and Julia Jacobson have been born the following children: Anna, Peter, John, Lena, Martha, Clara and Peter, all of whom are living with the exception of Peter, who died some years ago. Mr. Jacobson has held many of the local offices and has given to his official duties the same careful attention that he has given to his own affairs.

JORGEN F. HEIBERG.

Jorgen F. Heiberg, veteran miller and owner of the electric-light plant at Heiberg (old Twin Valley), and for the past twenty years or more clerk of Wild Rice township and one of the best-known and most substantial pioneers of Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years of age and of Norman county since 1881, having settled there the year that county was organized as a civil unit. He was born in the city of Bergen, one of the most important of the Norwegian seaports, July 4, 1861, a son of Andreas and Elsie (Faye) Heiberg, also natives of Norway and both born

in the vicinity of Bergen. Andreas Heiberg became a substantial merchant in Bergen and there he and his wife spent their last days. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being Christen, Severen, Catherine, Magdeline, Sophia, Cecelia, Elsie and Camila.

Reared in the city of Bergen, J. F. Heiberg received his schooling in the schools of that city and remained there until 1880, when he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Wisconsin and for a year thereafter was engaged working in a mill in the neighborhood of Stoughton, that state. The next year, 1881, he came up into this part of Minnesota and became a factor in the settlement then known as Twin Valley, in Norman county. Upon his arrival there Mr. Heiberg bought an old log grist-mill that had been established in that settlement and in the following year built to replace the same a new mill, which, with additions and improvements, he is still conducting and which is said to be the oldest mill in continuous operation in Norman county. When the new townsite of Twin Valley was platted and the town moved bodily to its new location Mr. Heiberg was left pretty much alone for a time, but his mill continued to be the center of trade for the farmers bringing their grain to mill and the settlement that was maintained around the old mill became known as Heiberg, which name it still holds. Mr. Heiberg has an excellent mill and has for years done general merchant milling, though when he started there his trade was all custom grinding. In 1907 he installed an electric light plant at his mill for the convenience of himself in the mill and store, and for the few families in that settlement and a year later increased the capacity of the plant and began to furnish light for the village of Twin Valley. In 1917 he made further extensions to his plant and is now also furnishing light for the people of the village of Gary. Mr. Heiberg is not only one of the best-known pioneers of Norman county, but one of the most active and progressive, and has always taken an active interest in local civic affairs. He has been clerk of the Heiberg school district since the day it was organized and for the past twenty years or more has served as clerk of the township of Wild Rice, which position he still occupies. He formerly operated a grain elevator at Twin Valley, but some years ago sold the same to one of his sons, who is now operating it.

In January, 1885, J. F. Heiberg was united in marriage to Augusta Slettebak and to this union have been born twelve children, all of whom are living, namely: George S., Martin A., Elsie, Christen, Andrew, Rasmus, Marie, Olaf, Magdaline, Joseph, Augusta and Anna. The Heibergs are

members of the United Lutheran church at Twin Valley and have ever taken an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, Mr. Heiberg being a member of the board of trustees of the church and one of its most active supporters.

JOHN G. INGBERG.

America is a gigantic melting pot of peoples. Into this great crucible opportunity leads a cosmopolitan concourse of peoples, with whom are mixed the wonderful natural resources of this wonderful land, and in a few years emerges a distinct type of man, the American. He has the sense of justice in government of the Englishman, the quick and artistic aptitude of the Latin and the tireless industry and indomitable perseverance of the Scandinavian; and, in addition to this, he has acquired a distinctly new characteristic, which is American, that of enterprise. Such a man is John G. Ingberg, a well-known and prosperous farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred and fifty-three acres of well-improved land. It was on September 23, 1849, the year when the California gold fever was raging in the United States, that John G. Ingberg first saw the light of day in the land of his nativity, Norway. He was the son of Gilbert and Karen (Olson) Ingberg, both natives of that country, where they grew up, married and reared their family, the father being a farmer. They were the parents of five children, as follow: Thomas, John G., the subject of this review; and the following three, Mary, Olena and Andrew, who are dead.

John G. Ingberg spent his boyhood on the old home place in the old country, where he grew to manhood, helping his parents on the farm until he was thirty-two years of age. At that time the spirit of enterprise entered his being and he decided to come to America, which meant to him a wonderful field of opportunity for a young man of industry, perseverance and purpose. Accordingly, he gathered his personal effects together and came to this country in 1881 and located at once among his countrymen, who had preceded him, in Hendrum township, Norman county, Minnesota. Not having much capital after he arrived upon the scene of his operations, nothing daunted he set to work with zest on the neighboring farms and after three years his resources enabled him to buy a tract of land, which he immediately began to improve and cultivate. As the years passed and his resources grew, he has been enabled to add to his original tract until now he is

the proprietor of two hundred and fifty-three acres, on which he has raised good substantial farm buildings and has planted a grove.

About the time he began farming on his own account, Mr. Ingberg married Andrevia Ormsrud, who, like himself was born in Norway, the daughter of Lars Ormsrud, who came to America. Mr. and Mrs. Ingberg are the parents of eight children, namely: George, who died; Lawrence, Alfred, Clarence, Josie, Martin, Olga and Adolph. He and his family are devout and conscientious members of the Lutheran denomination, and in the affairs of that church they have ever been active participants, Mr. Ingberg having helped to organize the Concordia Lutheran congregation. He has also been interested in the co-operative business agencies of his community, having helped to organize the creamery, the farmers elevator and the Farmers State Bank, all of Hendrum; and any movement which has for its aim the social or material betterment of the community receives from him his heartiest support.

HENRY C. SCHROEDER.

Henry C. Schroeder, well-known and progressive farmer and the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of prime land in Pleasant View township, is a native of the German empire, but has been a resident of the United States since he was six years old. He was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1860, a son of John and Catherine Schroeder, also natives of the same country.

John Schroeder was educated in the schools of his native land and in 1866 came with the other members of his family to this country and in 1879 moved to Norman county, where he homesteaded a quarter section of land in section 18, Green Meadow township. At a later date he bought a tract of land in Pleasant View township, engaged there in farming, and met with a large measure of success. He carried out many important improvements on his holdings and was generally regarded as one of the prosperous and progressive farmers of the district in which he lived. Mr. Schroeder gave a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and served in a representative capacity on the school board and township board for many years. In 1915 he sold the homestead tract and moved to Ada, where he bought a house and lot, and his death occurred in the latter place in 1916. His wife, Catherine Schroeder, is now living in Ada at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. They were

the parents of four children, three boys and one girl, Henry C. being the only one now living.

Henry C. Schroeder received his early education in the schools of this country, having come out here with his parents at the age of six years, arriving in the United States in 1866. In 1881 he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 12, Pleasant View township, and as he prospered in his farming operations he added to his land holdings and is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of prime land, on which he carries on general farming and has been doing very well. Mr. Schroeder finds time apart from his farming interests to devote to matters of public interest and has served for some time on the school and township boards and has shares in the local creamery.

In 1884 Henry C. Schroeder was united in marriage to Annie Butchman. Mr. Schroeder and family are members of St. John's church, in which he served for some years as an officer. The Schroeder family take an active part in the general social affairs of the district and township in which they reside, ever desirous to assist in all movements calculated to promote the welfare of the community.

J. J. BOWEN.

Among the well-known and prominent citizens of the village of Borup, Norman county, is J. J. Bowen, the present postmaster and one of the substantial men of the town. He was born in Ontario, Dominion of Canada, in the year 1874 and is the son of John and Anna (Lashay) Bowen, both of whom were natives of Canada and who were there educated in the schools of that country. They were well known in the community in which they lived and were held in the highest regard and esteem by all who knew them. They were of the farming class of their native country and later located in northwestern Minnesota, where they spent their last days.

J. J. Bowen received his education in the schools of northwestern Minnesota and in the high school at Pembina, North Dakota. Soon after completing his schooling he engaged in railroad work at Grand Forks, where he remained for some time. Even before he had worked for the railroad he had been engaged with a threshing outfit for two seasons, in the farming district of the state. After working for the Great Northern for a time at Grand Forks he was transferred to St. Vincent, where he remained for one

year, and in 1902 he was transferred to Borup, where he was employed as station agent until 1916, in which year he resigned and engaged in the mercantile business in that village. He formed a partnership with John Jacobson and with him has since conducted the business, under the firm name of Bowen & Jacobson. The members of this firm have a complete and up-to-date establishment and by their pleasing personalities and honest business methods have built up a large trade and today have the confidence and the respect of the entire community. Since they first engaged in the business their trade has continued to increase and they are recognized as one of the substantial and progressive business firms of the county.

J. J. Bowen has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the town and the county, and has been interested in the general development of the district ever since locating here. Being a man of ability and education, he has been much interested in the schools and has likewise been devoted to the general interests of his home community, those enterprises that have had to do with the general development of the district having received his hearty co-operation and support. Mr. Bowen was for a time assistant postmaster of the town of Borup and recently was appointed to the position of postmaster, which position he is filling to the entire satisfaction of all. He feels his responsibility to the postoffice department and his duty to the patrons of the office and is at all times accommodating and courteous to the general public, in consequence of which he receives the hearty support of the community.

OTTO J. GROVER.

Otto J. Grover, an energetic and substantial young farmer of Moland township, Clay county, proprietor of a fine farm of four hundred and eighty acres, breeder of pure-bred Holstein-Fresian cattle, clerk of district school board No. 6 and in other ways interested in public affairs, was born on a farm in Moland township in 1878. He is the son of Targe A. and Galena (Kassenburg) Grover, natives of Norway, the former born in 1830 and the latter in 1834.

Targe Grover, at the age of fifteen years, left his native Norway and came to the United States in 1846. On arriving in this country he started straight out to Minnesota and settled in the southern part of the state, where he was engaged at farming work for several years. He moved to Clay county



OTTO J. GROVER AND FAMILY

in 1874 and settled on a farm in Moland township, where he continued to reside up to the time of his death in 1895. He was an active and industrious farmer and improved his holding in a manner that made it profitable to work. Targe Grover devoted a portion of his time to public affairs and was one of the first board of county commissioners in Clay county. His wife, Galena Kassenburg, was also a native of Norway, who came to America at the age of fifteen, in 1849, and went to the southeastern part of Minnesota. She worked in St. Paul about the year 1853, and spent a few years in that city. Her death occurred in May, 1909, at the advanced age of seventy-five years. To Targe Grover and wife the following children were born: Gustav A., Alexandria T., who is the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Moland township, is married and has two children, Clarence and Elmer; Tilda N., who is married; Otto J., the subject of this sketch; Edward G., Christian A., Mary A., and Lizzie A., who are deceased. Targe Grover and his wife were earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and were active and influential residents of the district in which they made their home.

Otto J. Grover was educated in the public schools of Moland township and was reared on his father's farm. From boyhood he was an able assistant to his father in the work of developing and improving the home place, and remained thus engaged for some years. He then started farming on his own account and is now the owner of four hundred and eighty acres of prime land, on which he carries on general farming and stock raising and on which he has set out seventy-five acres to the cultivation of potatoes. Mr. Grover has an excellent herd of registered Holstein cattle and at the head of the herd has a registered Holstein bull, out of the first thousand-dollar butter cow in the state; the products of his herd finding a ready market, the quality of the strain being known throughout the county and outside it. He has carried out many costly improvements on his place and conducts his farming operations according to modern methods of agriculture, using the best machinery, the present value of which is about six thousand dollars. Mr. Grover has also erected a modern dwelling house on his farm, which is one of the most up-to-date in the township. The house is furnished with electric light, hot and cold water and hot-water plant, and an excellent system of sewerage. Here he and the members of his family are very nicely and pleasantly situated. All the farm buildings are also electrically lighted.

In 1901 Otto J. Grover was united in marriage to Hulda Nicholson, who was born in Sweden in 1877 and who at the age of seven years, in

1884, came to America with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Peterson, who settled in Clay county, where they resided until 1902, when they moved to Chisago county, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Grover are the parents of six children, Iva L., Marion G., Elvina A., Eugene F., Wilford V. and Francis E. The Grover family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and are active in all its good works. Mr. Grover is a trustee of the church, and in addition to his active life on the farm he gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs. He served as township assessor for four years and is now the efficient clerk of district school board No. 6, and in the fulfillment of the duties of these positions has always given a good account of himself.

FRANK GRAY.

Frank Gray, a well-known and extensive landowner, holding eight hundred acres of land, located in Wild Rice and Home Lake townships, Norman county, also breeder of full-blood Shorthorn cattle, is a native son of the state of Michigan, born in St. Joseph county, that state, in 1858. He is the son of Barbar H. and Sarah (Alger) Gray, natives of the state of New York, the former born in 1813 and the latter in 1818. Barbar H. Gray died in 1898 at the age of eighty-five years and his widow survived until 1905, her death occurring in that year at the age of eighty-seven years.

Barbar H. Gray and his wife left the Empire state and went to Michigan, where they settled in St. Joseph county, where the father became a farmer and continued at that occupation to the end of his life. Frank Gray, the subject of this sketch, was educated in the common schools of St. Joseph county, Michigan, and worked out at farm labor for about five years in that place. In 1880 he went to Spink county, South Dakota, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he immediately proceeded to put into a state of cultivation and later made a purchase of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, which he set out to the growing of grain. In that neighborhood, in common with many others, he suffered from the disadvantage of having no local market, the nearest place being Watertown, which was eighty miles distant. Nevertheless, Mr. Gray succeeded in his agricultural operations and in that state laid the foundations of his present prosperity.

In 1910 Mr. Gray decided to tempt fortune in Norman county, this state, and commenced his investments in land by the purchase of a full sec-

tion, located in Wild Rice and Home Lake townships. In 1914 he came to live in Wild Rice township and since taking up his residence in that place has added another quarter section to his original holding, being now the owner of eight hundred acres of land, the equal in quality of any other in the county. Since coming to live here he has remodeled the dwelling house and has built a substantial barn, and is now engaged in general farming, a large portion of his land being devoted to the cultivation of grain. In addition to his agricultural operations he is also interested in the raising of full-blood Shorthorn cattle, of which he has many fine specimens on his place, and he is generally regarded as one of the most substantial and progressive farmers in Norman county.

In 1888 Frank Gray was united in marriage to Levina Cahill, born in Crawford county, Wisconsin, a daughter of James Cahill and wife. To this union six children have been born, namely: Mrs. John McLeese; George, who operates the farm; John, Lloyd, Fred and Helen, all of whom are living. Mr. Gray has always taken a good citizen's interest in public affairs and while living in South Dakota he served as a member of the township board of Jefferson township, Spink county, that state, for a period of ten years. Mr. and Mrs. Gray are interested in the social and cultural activities of the community in which they live, ever ready to assist all good causes having for their object the advancement of the public welfare.

J. J. MEIGHEN.

J. J. Meighen, postmaster at Twin Valley and a veteran school teacher in the counties of Norman and Clay, is a native of the great Empire state, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was nine years of age and of this part of the state for more than thirty years, being thus very properly recognized as one of the "old settlers" of this section. He was born in the state of New York on February 27, 1848, son of John and Sophia (Wells) Meighen, both of whom were of European birth, the former born in the north of Ireland and the latter in Lincolnshire, England, and who had come to this country in the days of their youth, their marriage taking place in New York, in which state they first met.

John Meighen was nineteen years of age when he left his native Ireland and came to the United States, locating in New York state, where he married a few years later and where he made his home until 1857, when he

came with his family to the then Territory of Minnesota and settled on a farm in the vicinity of Lake Washington, in Blue Earth county, one of the pioneers of that part of the state, and was thus an active participant in the defensive struggle of the people of that section during the period of the great Sioux rebellion in 1862. John Meighen became a substantial farmer of the Lake Washington neighborhood and on his pioneer farm there he and his wife spent their last days, honored and influential residents, he living until 1907. He was reared as a Catholic and she as an adherent of the Church of England. They were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Catherine, Alice, Christiana, Jacob, May, Celia, Nellie, Jacob (who died in childhood), and Jacob Wells.

As noted above, J. J. Meighen was but nine years of age when he came to Minnesota from New York with his parents and his elementary schooling was continued in the primitive schools of his home neighborhood in Blue Earth county, upon completing which he entered the Normal school at Mankato, the second such institution started in the state of Minnesota, the school at the time he entered the same being conducted in the basement of the Methodist church at Mankato and the greater part of the attendance being confined to young women, but few young men at that time preparing themselves for the profession of teaching. Upon completing his normal course Mr. Meighen began teaching school and continued actively engaged in that honorable and useful profession until he received his commission as postmaster of Twin Valley in the spring of 1915, a period of forty-six years and five months, thirty years of which time was spent as a teacher in the schools of Norman and Clay counties; a record of continuous service in the school room believed to be unexcelled by any other teacher in the state of Minnesota. Mr. Meighen received the appointment as postmaster of Twin Valley in March, 1915, and upon the completion of his last term of school in the following May entered upon the active duties of the office and has since been thus engaged, his services in that connection proving very acceptable to the entire community. Mr. Meighen is a Democrat and ever since taking up his labors as a teacher in this part of the state, back in pioneer days, has given his earnest and intelligent attention to local civic and political affairs, long having been regarded as one of the leaders of his party in this section. It was in 1887 that Mr. Meighen settled at Twin Valley and in that village and in the vicinity of the same he has ever since made his residence, one of the best-known men in Norman and adjacent counties.

On April 21, 1874, J. J. Meighen was united in marriage to Catherine McGraw, who was born in LeSueur county, this state, daughter of Patrick McGraw and wife, pioneers of that county, who had settled there about 1858, and to this union three children have been born, Philip J., Mary Sophia and Alice Gertrude. Philip J. Meighen is now a prosperous practicing attorney at Minneapolis and the Misses Meighen, both of whom were graduated from the State Normal School at Mankato, are teaching school. The Meighens have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and have ever taken an interested part in the general social and cultural activities of that place and of the community at large.

AUGUST DURLING.

August Durling, proprietor of the Twin Valley Roller Mills, president of the village of Twin Valley and otherwise an active participant in the affairs of that village and of Norman county in general, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years of age. He was born at Parup, in Skone, September 19, 1863, and grew up in his native Sweden, receiving there a high-school education and remaining until he was about nineteen years of age, when, in 1882, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota, his objective point being Ada, county seat of Norman county.

For three or four years after his arrival at Ada, Mr. Durling worked on farms west and south of that place. During the following years he worked a two-hundred-acre farm in Winchester township, south of Ada, which he owned, and also farmed some rented land, and continued farming, spending portions of the winters in the pineries at Frazee and at Cromwell, until the spring of 1889, when he went farther west and became engaged working in the mines and smelters in Montana and Utah. He then proceeded on out to the coast and after a comprehensive tour of the cities of Seattle, Spokane, Portland, San Francisco and points in Colorado, he returned to Ada, in 1891, and there became engaged in the insurance business, continuing thus engaged for about a year, at the end of which time he was employed by the Thorpe Elevator Company as grain buyer for that company at Lee Station, in Polk county, where he remained until in July, 1894, when the company transferred him to their elevator at Twin Valley and he continued engaged as buyer for the Thorpes at that point until 1901, in which year he rented the

Farmers elevator at Twin Valley and began buying grain on his own account. A year later the Farmers Elevator Company resumed direction of that elevator and Mr. Durling continued as manager, in behalf of the company, for another year, at the end of which time he became engaged in the agricultural-implement business at Twin Valley and remained thus engaged for two years, or until the Twin Valley Roller Mills were built in 1903, he being part owner of the same, after which he gave his attention to the management of the mill. The next year, 1904, Mr. Durling became the sole owner of the mill and has continued to own and operate the same, having made it one of the most widely patronized mills in this part of the state. Mr. Durling has other business interests in Twin Valley and is one of the most enthusiastic "boosters" of that village. He was one of the organizers of the Citizens State Bank of Twin Valley and for about two years was a member of the board of directors of the same. He also has extensive farm-land interests in Norman county and is looked upon as one of the substantial citizens of that community. For several years he has served as president of the village council and in 1917 was again elected to that office, and has in other ways given of his time and energies to the public service.

In the year 1894 August Durling was united in marriage to Bertha Bergeson, daughter of Halvor Bergeson and wife, and to this marriage two children have been born, Arthur and Malvin. The Durlings are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church affairs, as well as in the community's general social activities.

HERBRAN ERICKSON.

Herbran Erickson, a farmer of Tansem township, Clay county, was born in Norway, October 11, 1859. He is a son of Erick and Sigri (Herbrandson) Hanson, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1870, locating first in Winneshiek county, Iowa, remaining there one year. In June, 1871, they came up into Minnesota, driving an ox-team overland, bringing their household effects in a prairie schooner. The family of P. P. Solum came along with them, and these two families were the first to settle in the northern part of Tansem township, Clay county. Erick Hanson, the father, took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, the place on which his son Ole now resides, and there he and his wife spent the rest of their lives. The father later bought

another quarter section here. He developed his land into a fine farm and erected a good group of buildings on his homestead. He helped organize Tansem township and the first church of the township was organized in his home, meetings being held there and in other homes in the vicinity for some time; then in the school house and finally a church edifice was erected at Rollag—the Grong church.

To Erick Hanson and wife seven children were born, namely: Hans, who resides in Parke township; Regnil, the wife of S. Thompson, of Parke township; Herbran, the subject of this sketch; Segri, the wife of O. H. Rierison, of Tansem township; Tosten, who lives in Becker county; Mary, the wife of S. P. Anderson, and Ole, who lives on the old homestead. These children were all born in Norway but the last two, whose births occurred on the home farm in Clay county.

Herbran Erickson was eleven years old when his parents brought him to America. He had attended school in Norway and his schooling was completed in Iowa and Minnesota. He has remained in Tansem township since the family first came here and he therefore grew up amid pioneer conditions, the locality having been a wild prairie and sparsely settled when the family settled there. He worked hard when a boy, assisting his father develop the homestead, and as a young man began farming for himself on the farm on which he still resides, which adjoins his father's farm. He owns three hundred acres of productive and well improved land on which he has erected excellent buildings and has a pleasant and attractive home. Mr. Erickson has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He makes a specialty of raising Hereford cattle, and prepares large numbers of cattle and hogs annually for the market. In 1904 he helped organize the Rollag Telephone Company, the early success of which was due to his able management as president, which position he occupied for six years in a manner that was eminently satisfactory to all concerned. He was again elected president of this company in the spring of 1917. He has been a heavy stockholder in the same since it was first organized. He is also president of the Parke Mutual Fire Insurance Company.

In 1885 Mr. Erickson was married to Celia Anderson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Andres and Hannah Solberg, natives of Norway, from which country they came to America about 1868, locating in Rock county, Wisconsin, where the father died shortly after locating there. The widow came to Minnesota in 1880, locating on a farm in Tansem township, Clay county, with her children. Andres Solberg and wife were the parents of six children, Lena, Christina (deceased), Oli, Hans, Celia and Alma.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, namely: Elsie, Albert, Henry, Elmer and Roy, all of whom are living at home.

Mr. Erickson is non-partisan in his political views, but has always been active in local public affairs. He has served as township assessor and was treasurer of the township for years. He also served as chairman of the township board for fifteen years, and was for some time justice of the peace, ever discharging his duties as a public official in an able and satisfactory manner.

JOHN P. LORENTZ.

John P. Lorentz, a prosperous farmer living in Mary township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor of the old home place, was born in the province of Ontario, Canada, November 4, 1871, a son of John K. and Maria Rachel (Berringer) Lorentz, both natives of Ontario, the latter born, October 20, 1831, and the former, July 29, 1833. Reared in their native province, where they married, the elder Lorentz and wife brought their family to Minnesota in 1876, and remained four years at Georgetown, Clay county. Feeling that better opportunities were to be had for establishing their home northward in Norman county, they came to this county in 1880 and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 29, Mary township. There the father and mother spent the rest of their lives, the former dying on May 5, 1889, and the latter on March 29, 1901, respected and well-known residents of the neighborhood, the father being a member of the school board for five or six years. They were members of the Catholic church and their children were reared in that faith. John K. and Maria Lorentz were the parents of eight children, namely: Maggie, the wife of W. C. Dalrimple and now living in Castleton, North Dakota; Rachel and Catherine both deceased; Mary, deceased; Susanna, who married W. H. White and now resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Lizzie, who lives here on the home place with her brother, the subject of this sketch; Joseph, married and residing in Moorhead, Clay county, and John, the subject of this review.

John P. Lorentz was only five years of age when he came from Ontario, Canada, the land of his nativity, with his parents, the family settling in Georgetown, Clay county, Minnesota, where he received his elementary education in the public schools. Later, when he was only nine years old, he accompanied his parents to Mary township, Norman county, where they



MR. AND MRS. JOHN K. LORENTZ

established their home permanently. Here on the old home place he spent his late boyhood and has lived ever since, devoting himself to the development and cultivation of the farm. After his mother's death in 1901, he purchased the home place from the estate and has kept the old farm up to its former high state of improvement, adding several buildings and much modern farming machinery, which have materially increased the agricultural efficiency of the tract. Mr. Lorentz now carries on diversified farming according to the latest methods of scientific agriculture, and is considered one of the up-to-date farmers of the community. He has not married and his sister, Lizzie, lives with him on the home place, keeping house.

In addition to his agricultural activities, Mr. Lorentz is interested in the credit facilities which are extended to the farmers of the township, and is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Perley. In politics, he is a staunch advocate of Republican policies and principles, and he is keenly interested in the civic affairs of his neighborhood, having served Mary township seven years as assessor. The educational progress of the community has come in for some of Mr. Lorentz's time, as he served as director on the school board for many years, now in his sixth term. In all of his activities in private business or in the discharge of public duty, Mr. Lorentz has always shown himself to be a man of sterling integrity and shrewd business sense. He and his sister, Lizzie, are members of St. Mary's Catholic church in Mary township and take a proper interest in parish affairs.

CARL BJORKQUIST.

Carl Bjorkquist, a well-known contractor of Moorhead, was born in Sweden, October 5, 1854. He is a son of Lars Johnson and Marie (Erickson) Johnson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and resided until 1885, when they emigrated to America, coming directly to Minnesota and locating at Moorhead, where they spent the rest of their lives. The father was contracting mason and also owned some excellent farming land. He was born in 1809 and died in Moorhead on August 12, 1902. His wife was born in 1817 and died at Moorhead in 1905. To these parents nine children were born, namely: Sophia, born in 1841; Mary, 1843; Anna, 1845, who died in 1872 in Sweden; John, 1848, who was a general contractor and died in Moorhead; Magnus, 1849; Helen, 1852;

Carl, the subject of this sketch; Edward, 1857, who was postmaster at Moorhead for a period of twelve years, and Augusta, 1859. These children were all educated in the public schools in Sweden.

Carl Bjorkquist grew to manhood in his native land and there attended school. As a young man he learned the trade of mason under his father and others. Two of his brothers also took up this line of work. He came to America in 1881, coming on directly to Minnesota and locating at Moorhead, where he has since made his home. His brother John, for whom he began working upon his arrival here, was the first contractor in Moorhead, where he had settled in 1878. Carl became his foreman, remaining with him until 1898, when he began contracting for himself and has continued thus successfully engaged until the present time, enjoying a large and growing business. He is an expert workman and a close observer as well as a student of all that pertains to his line and has therefore kept well abreast of the times in the same. He has erected many public buildings, business houses and residences in Moorhead and elsewhere.

Mr. Bjorkquist was married in 1884 to Hulda Anderson, who was born in Sweden, where she grew to womanhood, attended school and married, Mr. Bjorkquist returning to his native land for her. After their marriage they remained there about two years, coming back to Minnesota in 1886. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bjorkquist, namely: Lars Gunnar, Hildur Elizabeth, Oscar William and Herbert Hjalmar.

Politically, Mr. Bjorkquist is a Republican. He has always taken an active interest in the affairs of Moorhead and is a member of the Commercial Club, also of the Builders Exchange at Fargo. He belongs to the Swedish Lutheran church.

JOHN E. LEDING.

The late John E. Leding, who was a prosperous farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he was the owner and operator of a fine farm of two hundred acres and where he was the first settler, was born at Sundahl, Norway, a son of Erick and Marit (Mahle) Leding, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they grew up, married, reared their family and died, the father a farmer there.

John E. Leding was reared on the old farm in Norway and there he

received the common school advantages which the time and place afforded. Some years after he reached manhood, he married Inger Mahle, who was born in Norway, where her death occurred, and she bore him three children, all of whom came to America with their father; they were: Syneva, deceased; Erick and Marit, deceased. Before he left Norway, he was married to Helge Mahle, and they were the parents of four children, namely: Lars, born in Norway; Edward, who now lives on the old home farm in Norman county; Ole and Inger.

Some years after his second marriage, Mr. Leding decided upon leaving the land of his birth and he brought his entire family to Winneshiek county, Iowa, in 1872 or 1873, and they remained in their first place of settlement until 1879, when they came to Norman county, Minnesota. In the spring of that year, he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, Bear Park township. He remained there until his death occurred, August 2, 1909, and his widow still makes her home on the old place. Being a thrifty and industrious farmer, his operations were successful, and he was enabled to add to his holdings by the acquisition of forty acres in section 31, Bear Park township, where he was the first settler. As the years passed, he improved his farm, which he brought up to a high state of cultivation, by erecting excellent farm buildings, until he was the owner of one of the best farm plants in the neighborhood.

The late John E. Leding was an ideal pioneer, since he was a participant in the establishment of all the institutions of civilization in the township, including the religious, social and co-operative business interests. When the time came to organize Bear Park township into a bona-fide civil division of the county, he was a member of the meeting convened for that purpose. He helped to organize the St. Peter Lutheran church of Strand township. Mr. Leding was also a leading spirit in the establishment of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and the Farmers Elevator at Gary.

Edward Leding, the second son born to John Leding by the latter's second wife, has always lived on the old home farm, in Bear Park township, since he came here with his parents from Iowa, where he was born. Here he and his mother make their home and are comfortably situated. He began operating the farm in 1903 and continued to do so during his father's declining years, and under his careful management, the farm has continued to produce most bountifully. Like his father, he has continued the former's activity in the civil and business affairs of the community. For six years he

served the township as supervisor, and during his incumbency, he discharged his duties with strict fidelity to his official trust. The co-operative business interests of the county have demanded more of his time than have the civil interests, for he is connected with the creamery and mercantile companies at Sundahl and with the mercantile companies at Bear Park and Waukon.

S. M. LEE.

S. M. Lee, manager of the extensive establishment of the Peoples Supply Company at Gary, dealers in general merchandise, and one of the best-known young business men in Norman county, is a native son of that county and has lived there practically all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in Bear Park township on October 21, 1883, son of the Hon. S. J. and Marie (Heglie) Lee, both natives of the kingdom of Norway and pioneers of Norman county, who are still living on their old homestead farm in Bear Park township.

The Hon. S. J. Lee, former member of the Legislature from his district, as noted above, is a native of Norway, where he was born on June 12, 1859, and he was about eight years of age when his parents came to the United States and settled in Fillmore county, this state, among the pioneers of that county. There he grew to manhood and remained until 1882, when, shortly after his marriage, he came up to this part of the state and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 22 of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he established his home and where he ever since has made his residence, having one of the best-improved farms in that part of the county. From the very beginning of his residence in Norman county, S. J. Lee took an active part in general local civic affairs, served for seven or eight years as assessor of his home township, for ten or twelve years as clerk of the same and in 1894 was elected to the lower house of the Minnesota Legislature as a representative from the fifty-first legislative district, and served in that important and responsible capacity during the sessions of 1895 and 1897, having been re-elected in 1896 to succeed himself. In 1908 he was elected as a member of the board of commissioners of Norman county from his district and by successive re-elections is still occupying that position, for the past two or three years having been chairman of the board. S. J. Lee and wife are members of the Lutheran church, Mr. Lee for some time having

served as clerk of the local congregation, and their children have been reared in that faith. There were twelve of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being Tillie, Maggie, Julia, Sidney, William, Alice, Ida, Norman, Henry, Alfred and Agnes, all of whom are living save Sidney, who died in 1916.

S. M. Lee was reared on the home farm in Bear Park township, on which he was born, and upon completing the course in the common schools attended business college at Crookston for three years. He then, from 1909 to 1911, was employed with the Bear Park Mercantile Company and in 1912 went over into North Dakota, where he was engaged at Clifford for one year, at the end of which time he returned to this state and for about three years thereafter was in the employ of a business concern at Waupon. In the fall of 1916 he became engaged as manager of the store of the Peoples Supply Company at Gary, which position he now occupies and in which connection he has done much to extend the business of that enterprising concern. Mr. Lee is the owner of an eighty-acre farm in section 22 of Bear Park township. He served a term as clerk of that township while living there and has ever given his earnest attention to the general affairs of his home community.

On January 13, 1912, S. M. Lee was united in marriage to Clara Sveve, daughter of Eric O. Sveve and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Edgar S., Manville and Lyle Roger. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are members of the Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of their home town and the community at large, ever helpful in promoting all agencies having to do with the advancement of the common welfare hereabout.

HELMER N. BENTLEY.

Helmer N. Bentley, local manager at Twin Valley for the Bertram Lumber Company, former member of the board of trustees of that village and former president of the council, is a native of the adjoining state of Iowa, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of Norman county since he was a babe in arms, his parents having settled here back in pioneer days, in the days before Norman county was organized as a civic unit, and he thus has been a witness to the development of this region almost since the beginning of organized settlement here. He was born on a farm in the

vicinity of Northwood, in western Iowa, August 14, 1878, son of Ole S. and Anna (Bergeson) Bentley, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came up into the Red River valley in 1870 and settled in Norman county, where they are still living, now substantial residents of Wild Rice township.

Ole S. Bentley was born in Norway on February 2, 1850, and was nine years of age when his parents, Ole B. and Mary (Olson) Olson, came with their family to the United States and settled in western Iowa, among the earliest pioneers of that region, where he grew to manhood and married. After his marriage he remained in the vicinity of Norwood until 1879, when he came with his family up into this section of Minnesota and located on a homestead farm in the eastern part of Norman county, where he remained until 1890, in which year he moved to a farm in section 30 of Wild Rice township, where he still lives, one of the most substantial and influential residents of that neighborhood. Ole S. Bentley has served as a member of the board of supervisors of Wild Rice township and has in other ways contributed of his time and his services to the general civic affairs of the community of which he has been a resident since pioneer days. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian (Synod) Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eleven of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Clarence, Minnie, Ollie (deceased), Julia, Sidney, Sophia, Henry, Olga, Melvin and Laura.

As noted above, Helmer N. Bentley was but an infant when his parents came up from Iowa and settled in Norman county and he grew up on the pioneer home farm, receiving his schooling in the schools of district 41, in Wild Rice township. From the days of his boyhood he was a valued assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place and he remained at home until 1901, when he entered the employ of the Wilcox Lumber Company and was made the manager of that company's yard at Audubon, where he remained until the summer of 1903, when he transferred his services to the Ballard & Trimble Lumber Company and was made the manager of that company's plant at Twin Valley and continued thus engaged until that plant was destroyed by fire in the fall of 1907. Mr. Bentley spent the following summer on the road for the Ballard & Trimble Company, making collections in North Dakota, and then entered the employ of the Monarch Elevator Company, being made grain buyer for that company at Twin Valley, and was thus engaged until the spring of 1909, when he bought an eighty-acre farm in Wild Rice township, in the vicinity of his old home, and was engaged in farming during the following

summer. In the fall of that same year he sold his farm and resumed business pursuits, for a year thereafter acting as manager of the establishment of the Twin Valley Implement Company. In the fall of 1910 Mr. Bentley resumed his former connection with the Ballard & Trimble Lumber Company and was made manager of that concern's plant and yards at Red Wing, this state, where he remained until the spring of 1912, when he returned to Twin Valley to accept the position of manager of the local plant of the Anchor Lumber Company and was thus engaged when, in the spring of 1916 that yard was sold to the Bertram Lumber Company. Under the new management Mr. Bentley was retained as manager of the plant and has continued to occupy that position since, one of the best-known lumber men in this part of the state. Mr. Bentley has not only been active in business, but has done his part in the public service and has ever been a consistent and intelligent "booster" for his home town and the community at large. In 1915 he served as a member of the board of trustees of the village of Twin Valley and in 1916 was president of the council.

In the year 1903 Helmer N. Bentley was united in marriage to Lena Waller, daughter of Ole Waller and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Lillian, Oris and Irene. Mr. and Mrs. Bentley are members of the Norwegian (Synod) Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work. They have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and take an interested part in the community's general social activities.

OSWALD S. HELLERUD.

Oswald S. Hellerud, assistant cashier of the Citizens State Bank of Twin Valley and one of Norman county's most active and influential young business men, is a native son of that county and has lived there all his life, with the exception of the time spent in college at Moorhead and at Fargo. He was born on a pioneer farm in Hegne township on October 9, 1883, son of Hans J. and Thora (Olson) Hellerud, natives of the kingdom of Norway and pioneers of this part of Minnesota, who are now living at Twin Valley, where Hans J. Hellerud, further and fitting reference to whom is made elsewhere in this volume, has for the past ten years been engaged in the clothing business, one of the best-known and most substantial merchants of that thriving village.

Reared on the home farm in Hegne township, Oswald S. Hellerud received his early schooling in the district schools in the neighborhood of his home and supplemented the same by a course in Concordia College at Moorhead and at Aaker Business College at Fargo. Upon completing his business course he became employed with the local branch of the International Harvester Company at Fargo and was thus engaged for a year, at the end of which time he returned to Twin Valley and for five years thereafter was actively engaged in his father's clothing store in that village. In March, 1914, Mr. Hellerud became employed as a bookkeeper in the Citizens State Bank of Twin Valley and in January, 1916, was promoted to the position of assistant cashier of that bank, which position he now occupies, one of the best-known young bankers in Norman county. Mr. Hellerud is one of Twin Valley's most enthusiastic and public-spirited "boosters" and is actively interested in all movements designed to advance the general commercial and social interests of the place and of the community at large. He also takes an earnest interest in local civic affairs. He was reared in the faith of the United Lutheran church and takes a proper interest in church work and in other local good works.

ERNEST PINSKE.

Ernest Pinske, the owner of six hundred acres of Wild Rice township land, who has always unselfishly considered the well-being of his neighbors as well as that of himself, was born in West Prussia on February 19, 1855, a son of Ferdinand and Florentina (Schaffnerus), both natives of Prussia, the former of whom died in the place of his nativity and the latter in Norman county, Minnesota, some years after she came to America to make her home with her son, Ernest. The elder Pinske and wife were the parents of six children, as follow: Gust, now dead; Ernest, the subject of this review; Theodore; August; Hulda, still in Germany, and Matilda, who died in Germany.

Ernest Pinske received his early education in Germany and, on reaching the age of eighteen, came to America and located in Faribault, Minnesota, where he was a laborer for a few years. Hearing the call of the soil and seeing before him the opportunity to become an agriculturalist, Mr. Pinske, in 1881, loaded his personal effects and a few farming implements into a wagon drawn by a team of horses and pushed northward into Norman county,



OLD AND NEW HOMES OF ERNEST PINSKE.



THE BEST FIELD OF RYE RAISED IN MINNESOTA IN 1917 (PINSKE FARM).

where he homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Wild Rice township, which he has brought up to a fine state of cultivation and has improved with fine farm buildings around which he has planted a beautiful grove of trees. His perseverance, industry and good management gave him the right to extend his holdings until now he is the proprietor of six hundred acres of land, on which he carries on general farming and raises stock. His holdings are divided into two parts, "Oak Grove Farm," the name of the home place, well improved with excellent farm buildings, and "Elm Grove Farm," the name of a tract which lies one-half mile east and is operated by his oldest son, Henry Pinske. When Mr. Pinske first came to this country, his land was in great part heavily timbered, and in all he has cleared two hundred and fifty acres, much of it averaging eighty cords of wood to the acre.

On February 14, 1881, Ernest Pinske married Johanna Sanken, who was born in McLeod county, the daughter of Henry Sanken. To this union have been born the following children: Bertha, Charley, Lizzie, Clara, Seva and Herman, all of whom are dead, and Anna, Wilhelmina, Henry and Otto. Mr. Pinske and his family are members of the Lutheran church, being always active in the affairs of that denomination, Mr. Pinske having helped organize the Green Meadow Lutheran church.

Mr. Pinske is a very valuable citizen to his community, for he has given much of his time and money to one of the greatest agents for opening up a new country—roads. For many years he was road overseer, establishing and supervising the thoroughfares for a district which is now divided into three. While serving the public in this capacity, he did much to improve the roads in this part of Wild Rice township, giving money from his own pocket oftentimes for the work. For many years the only roads by which his neighbors could gain access to the public roads were through Mr. Pinske's farm.

OLE K. OLSON.

Ole K. Olson, the son of one of the early pioneers of Halstad township, Norman county, and one of the well-known farmers and stock raisers in Anthony township, where he owns two sections of excellent arable and pasture land, is a native-born Minnesotan, born in Fillmore county, this state, on Christmas Eve, 1868, a son of Knut and Olena (Hellerud) Olson. His parents were natives of Norway, and were numbered among the large

numbers of their countrymen who severed the ties which bound them to the land of their birth to go forth in quest of new and better homes in the New World. It was in 1867 that they bade goodby to their relatives and friends back home and set sail for America, presently locating in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they remained seven years, during which time their son, Ole K., was born. Hearing that a party of settlers in their community were making preparations to "set sail" in their prairie schooners for the newly-opened land in the Red river valley in 1874, Knut Olson loaded his family and their household and agricultural appurtenances into a covered wagon and drove through by ox-team to the region that was later organized as Norman county, the journey requiring about three weeks. As soon as he arrived in these parts, he took a homestead in what later came to be organized as Halstad township, thus becoming one of the pioneers of that civil division of the county, and there spent the rest of his life, his death occurring on December 22, 1916. His wife still survives him. Among his other pioneer activities, Knut Olson helped to establish the first Norwegian Lutheran church in the community. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, Ole K., John K., Mary, Albert, Karen, William, Bertha, Emma and George (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Olson reared their family according to the precepts of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Ole K. Olson was only six years old when he was ushered into the pioneer conditions of Norman county. Here he received his common-school education in the primitive district schools of those days, and his training for his future agricultural pursuits in which he has proved himself so successful. There he remained on the old homestead helping his father, bringing the farm up to an admirable state of cultivation, until he reached the age of twenty-five years. At that time, in 1895, he married and left the parental roof-tree and located on his farm in Anthony township, which he had bought two or three years previously. There he has ever since remained, improving and cultivating his land. As the years have passed, prosperity has smiled upon his efforts to such an extent that he has been enabled to extend his holdings until his farm now comprises three hundred and twenty acres, which he has improved by raising fine farm buildings and adding modern agricultural improvements. In addition to his general farming activities, he makes a specialty of breeding Percheron horses and Shropshire sheep.

On June 22, 1895, Ole K. Olson was united in marriage to Laura Westby, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Hans and Grune (Scheie) Westby, who came to Minnesota in 1892 and located in Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of eleven children, Bennie, Harriette,

Orlando, William, Harvey, Pearl, Ordin and Gladys (twins), Kenneth, Martin and Inez, all of whom are living. The Olson family are consistent and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which denomination they take a deep interest. Mr. Olson is independent in his political views and has never been a seeker after public office, but whenever any movement is set on foot in the community for the social and business betterment of the people, it always finds in Ole K. Olson unstinted support.

PETER LARSON.

Peter Larson, a substantial and progressive farmer, part owner of the "Larson & Johnson Farm," in McDonaldsville township, Norman county, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Norman county, where he has lived all his life with the exception of one year spent in North Dakota. He was born at Ada on August 24, 1881, a son of Hans and Helena (Peterson) Larson, both of whom were born in Norway.

Hans Larson received his education in the schools of Norway and in 1863 immigrated with his parents, Lars and Maria Knutson, to the United States, working for some years later on his father's farm in Iowa. At the age of twenty-eight years, in June, 1880, he came to Ada, Norman county, a horse-team being employed to cover the journey, which occupied about two weeks. He made Ada his home for two years, engaged in running a feed barn, and at the end of that period he bought land in Hegne township, his holding consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he carried on general farming for ten years. He then moved to McDonaldsville township, this county, and purchased a parcel of land, which he has operated with considerable success and on which he has continued to reside ever since, the holding consisting of two hundred and seventy-four acres. He is also interested in the raising of Shorthorn cattle, some excellent specimens of which are to be found on his farm. A more extended account of Hans Larson appears in another part of this work, to which the reader is referred for additional information respecting the Larson family generally.

Peter Larson was educated in the schools of McDonaldsville township and later helped his father in the work of improving and developing the home farm. Some time later he homesteaded a farm in Benson county, North Dakota, and remained there during the year 1903, proving his claim

up with money. He then returned to McDonaldsville township and here he and his partner, Mr. Johnson, own two hundred and forty acres of prime land, known as the "Johnson & Larson Farm," an excellent holding, kept up to all modern requirements demanded for agricultural purposes, on which they have erected fine farm buildings and are engaged in carrying on diversified farming, with satisfactory results. In addition to their farming operations they also have a choice herd of full-blood Shorthorn cattle, and the farm buildings include a substantial barn and silo.

In the fall of 1913 Peter Larson was united in marriage to Minnie Langeland, who was born in the state of Iowa, daughter of Ole Langeland and wife, and to this union one child, Orval, has been born. Mr. Larson and family are members of the Synod church and are active in all neighborhood good works, earnest advocates of all movements calculated to advance the general welfare of the community. Mr. Larson takes a keen interest in public affairs and for the past two years has served as township treasurer and in the execution of the duties of that important office has given general satisfaction.

DAVID COLSTON LIGHTBOURN.

David Colston Lighbourn, editor and publisher of the *Norman County Index* at Ada, chairman of the Republican county central committee of Norman county, former insurance commissioner for the state of Minnesota, former mayor, former member of the council, former recorder and member of the school board and former judge of probate of Norman county, a pioneer of this county and one of the oldest newspaper men in point of continuous service in the Red River valley, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, with the exception of parts of two years spent in Winnipeg years ago and one summer spent at Grand Forks, North Dakota. He was born in the city of St. Paul on January 30, 1858, a son of Edward S. and Susan Samantha (Murray) Lighbourn, the former a native of the Bermuda Islands and the latter of the state of Illinois, both of whom are now deceased.

The Lighbourns are of English stock and the branch of the family from which the subject of this sketch descended became established in the Bermudas more than three hundred years ago and has ever maintained a prominent part in the affairs of the English colony there. Edward S. Light-

bourn was born in 1831 and some time after coming to the United States from the fair island of his birth established his home in the city of St. Paul. His death occurred in 1908. His widow survived him for several years, her death occurring in 1913. She was born in Illinois in 1832, daughter of D. C. Murray and wife, both of Colonial stock, whose ancestors fought in every war in the history of this country. Edward S. Lightbourn and wife were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being as follow: Mrs. Leni L. Shire, E. T. Lightbourn and Mrs. George W. Harding, of St. Paul; Mrs. M. Tyllia, of Minneapolis; Mrs. Emma Van Horne, of Morris, this state; Charles Lightbourn, of Willits, California; Mrs. A. G. Kulander, of Walker, Minnesota, Mrs. Ernest Hopwood, of Portland, Oregon, and Mary Lightbourn, deceased.

Reared at St. Paul, the city of his birth, David C. Lightbourn received his schooling there and was graduated from the high school in that city. He early became interested in newspaper work and after spending parts of two years at Winnipeg and a summer over at Grand Forks, North Dakota, came to Ada in the spring of 1883 and established the *Norman County Index* at Ada, and has ever since been the publisher of that sterling newspaper, he for years having been widely recognized as one of the oldest newspaper men in point of continuous service in this part of the state. Mr. Lightbourn is an ardent Republican and his newspaper has ever reflected his views with relation to the principles of that party, having long been recognized as one of the ablest expounders of those principles in Minnesota.

During many campaigns in the past Mr. Lightbourn has served as chairman of the Republican central committee in Norman county and is now serving in that capacity. In 1890 he was elected judge of probate for Norman county and served one term in that capacity. He also has given much of his time and attention to the service of the state and served for some time as insurance commissioner of the state and as deputy insurance commissioner, serving thus from 1892 to 1897 and during 1901-05, serving as deputy insurance commissioner during these periods with the exception of the term including the year 1896, when he served as insurance commissioner. In local civic affairs he also has been active, taking an influential and useful part in the general political affairs of Ada and of Norman county, and has served as mayor of Ada, as a member of the city council, as recorder of the city and as a member of the school board, to all of these various public duties bringing his most thoughtful and intelligent attention. Mr. Lightbourn also has ever given his earnest attention to the general

business affairs of the community and has done much to help promote the same. He not only is editor and publisher of the *Index*, which has ever been a faithful and consistent "booster" of the interests of this section of the state, but he is a stockholder in the First State Bank of Ada and in the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Ada, and likewise has stock in and is a member of the board of directors of several other local concerns. During the time that Company I, Third Regiment, Minnesota National Guard, was stationed at Ada, Mr. Lightbourn served for five years as an officer of the same and was a lieutenant at the close of that service.

Mr. Lightbourn has been thrice married. In 1887, at Ada, he was united in marriage to Emily Ginsberg, who died in 1902, leaving three children, namely: Mrs. Arthur M. Mueller, of Ada; Alice Fay Lightbourn, who is the teacher of domestic science in the schools of Ada, and Blanche Lily Lightbourn, who is now (1917) a student in Carleton College. In 1908, at Denver, Colorado, Mr. Lightbourn married Carrie Louise Welley, who died three years later, without issue. On April 3, 1915, Mr. Lightbourn was united in marriage to Ragna Welley, sister of his second wife. Mrs. Lightbourn was born in Strand township, Norman county, on March 27, 1887, a daughter of A. J. Welley and wife, pioneers of this county, who were the parents of quite a family of children, ten of whom are still living, those besides Mrs. Lightbourn being John Welley, Lewis Welley, Elert Welley, Carl Welley, Ida Welley, Mrs. Leslie Barnes, Anna Welley, Hjalmer Welley and Malvin Welley. Mr. Lightbourn was reared as an Episcopalian, but he and his wife are now affiliated with the Congregational church at Ada. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Samaritans and takes a proper interest not only in church and lodge work, but in the general social activities of the community of which he has been a part since pioneer days.

PETER H. AAMOTH.

Peter H. Aamoth, a retired farmer who owns one thousand acres of Minnesota land, living in Twin Valley, Wild Rice township, was born in Norway on September 18, 1847, the son of H. P. and Karen (Clair) Aamoth, both born in Norway, who came to America in 1871 and settled in Rock county, Wisconsin, where they remained one year. In 1872 the elder Aamoth and his family decided to move into Minnesota and located in Fos-

sum township, Norman county, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 22 and improved the same. Here the parents remained until their deaths. Seven children were born to H. P. Aamoth and wife, namely: Annette, Peter H., Lars, Hans, Nels, Olena and Engwold. All of the children are living in Fossum township except Nels, who died in 1900. The elder Aamoth was one of the first settlers in Fossum township, which he helped organize within its present boundaries; and he was also a leading spirit in the establishment of the East Wild Rice Lutheran church, of which he and his family remained active and consistent members.

Peter H. Aamoth spent his childhood and early manhood in Norway, where he attended the common schools; and when he was twenty-two years old came alone to America and settled in Rock county, Wisconsin. His parents came one year later and when the family determined upon establishing their home in Minnesota he, with his cousin, Andrew Olsen, came on ahead of his parents by train to Benson, then by stage until they reached Alexandria and walked the rest of the way to Norman county. There Mr. Aamoth settled in what is now Fossum township and sent for his parents and the rest of the family, after he had taken a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 22, which he improved by erecting substantial farm buildings and by planting a grove, the land being raw prairie when he got it. In 1903 he retired and moved to Twin Valley, where he lived only two years, his industrious disposition and thrift causing him to withdraw from his retirement and move back to his homestead, where he remained active in agricultural pursuits until 1913, when he moved back to Twin Valley, where he remained one year. Mr. Aamoth's success in general farming and business has enabled him to extend his holdings repeatedly, for in 1913 he bought two hundred and forty acres in section 23, Fossum township, where he has since lived, and later he added to his homestead until it now comprises four hundred and eighty acres, all of which he still owns. His acquisition of farm land has not been confined to Norman county alone, for, in all, he is the owner of one thousand acres of Minnesota land.

Mr. Aamoth, in addition to his farming interests, has been active in business affairs and in acquiring and improving urban real estate. He has a house and five lots in Twin Valley, which bid fair to be a good investment; and in 1892, with Christ Woler, he established a general store in this village, but he sold out after being in business a few months. He has also been interested in the extension of credit facilities in the new country, for he helped organize the First National Bank and the Citizens State Bank of Twin Valley, and was a stockholder in the First National Bank at Mahanomen.

Minnesota, but he is at present not connected with any of these financial institutions. Even though Mr. Aamoth has been a conspicuous man in the affairs of his community and has ever been active in all movements for the betterment of social and business conditions, he has never aspired to political office.

On January 3, 1878, Peter H. Aamoth was united in marriage, on his own homestead, to Eliza Oyidea Olson, who was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, the daughter of P. S. Olson, a pioneer of Wild Rice township, Norman county. To that union were born the following children, all of whom are still living: Julia, Helmer, Theodore, Alfred, Emma, Cora, Francis and Sidney. Mrs. Aamoth died on November 28, 1902. Mr. Aamoth and family are devout, conscientious and active members of the Lutheran church, belonging to the Mamesta congregation at Faith; however, they were members formerly of the Wild Rice Lutheran church, which he helped to organize, when they lived on the other farm.

MARTIN A. HEIBERG.

Martin A. Heiberg, former proprietor of the Heiberg elevator at Twin Valley and a well-known general dealer in flour, feed, grain and seeds at that place, was born in Norman county and has lived there all his life, with the exception of some years spent in North Dakota and several years spent homesteading in Montana. He was born in the village of Heiberg (old Twin Valley) on March 16, 1887, son of J. E. and Augusta (Slettsback) Heiberg, early and influential residents of that place, who are still living there and further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume in a biographical sketch relating to J. E. Heiberg, the well-known veteran miller and electric-light producer at Heiberg.

Reared at Heiberg, M. A. Heiberg received his schooling in the schools of that village and from the days of his youth was a valued assistant to his father in the labors of the latter's mill. When sixteen years of age, in 1903, he went to Valley City, North Dakota, and was there engaged until 1908 working in the mills of the Russell Miller Milling Company. He then went over into Montana, meantime having married, and entered a homestead claim to a quarter of a section of land and there made his home, proving up his claim, until 1912, in which year he sold his claim and returned to Norman county, locating at Twin Valley, where he bought the elevator of the Heiberg

Elevator Company, and took charge of the same, maintaining the proprietorship of that thriving business until September 1, 1917, when he sold out to the Twin Valley Grain Company. Mr. Heiberg still carries on a general wholesale flour, feed, hay, potato and seed business and is also the jobber, for the states of Minnesota and North Dakota, for the Packro "seedtape," maintaining a force of men on the road for the sale of his products, besides an ample force of men in the office and warehouses. He also has a feed-grinding mill and in addition to his other activities has built up an extensive business in the real-estate line, being recognized as one of the most energetic young "hustlers" in this part of the state. Mr. Heiberg takes an active interest in the community's general affairs and as secretary of the Twin Valley Good Roads Association has done much to advance the cause of better roads hereabout. His petition for the improvement of forty-six miles of road in the territory adjacent to Broadview, Montana, was granted and the road bears his name. During his residence in Musselshell county, Montana, Mr. Heiberg was the organizer of school district No. 37 in that county and was clerk of the school board, doing a fine work for the advancement of the interests of the schools in that pioneer community.

In the year 1904 M. A. Heiberg was united in marriage to Matilda Peterson, daughter of Henry Peterson and wife, of Heiberg, and to this union have been born six children, Arthur B., Viola M., Francis E. W., Irene L., Ruth M. and Inez B. Mr. and Mrs. Heiberg are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take an interested part in local church work, as well as in the general social activities of the community and are helpful in promoting such movements as are designed to advance the common welfare.

TRON RISHOF.

The state of Minnesota has many men of prominence who are of foreign birth and who have risen to their present high standing in the community in which they live by their own efforts. Among the number who have thus won their way to success and influence it is well to mention Tron Rishof, who is now living in retirement in Gary, Minnesota, and who was born in far away Norway in the year 1848 and is the son of Tron Rishof and Gunhild Haugerud, born in Tlaskerud.

The parents of our subject, Tron Rishof, received their education in the schools of their native country and there grew to manhood and woman-

hood and were married. After their marriage they established their home in the northern country where they were born and there they spent the rest of their lives, highly respected and held in the highest regard by their friends and those who knew them. They were the parents of six children, Torkeld, Erick, Tron, Marie, Gunhild and Kriste, all of whom are now deceased save the subject of this sketch and Gunhild, the latter of whom is a resident of Litchfield, Minnesota. The family were members of the Lutheran church and always took an active interest in church work.

Reared to manhood at the old home and completing his schooling in the local schools of his native land, Tron Rishof decided, in the year 1869, that he would seek his fortune and his home in America, where many of his countrymen and friends had located, and where they were meeting with success in their various operations in life. On his arrival in this country he came at once to Minnesota and for a year worked at St. Paul, moving thence to Pelican Rapids in the year 1870. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Otter Tail county and at once began the preparation of his future home. He built a small house, and after his marriage in 1874 established his home there, occupying that pioneer dwelling for some years, entered with spirit into the task of developing the tract that he had homesteaded. For ten years he battled with the difficulties that confronted him and during this time succeeded in putting much of his land under cultivation and making many valuable and substantial improvements. He then moved up into Norman county and here he started a general store three miles east of what later became the town of Gary, his store having been the first business enterprise in the place that later was known as Strand. In 1883 the town had reached such proportions that a postoffice was established there and Mr. Rishof was named the first postmaster, which position he held until the year 1890, when he disposed of his store and resigned his position. His sons Theodore and Olaf, with Louis Garden, then established a general store at Gary, which they operated until the year 1901, when Mr. Rishof purchased the interests of the son Olaf and Mr. Garden. After having made the purchase the business was continued by him and his sons Theodore and Ed, until the year 1915 when they sold to the Farmer's Mercantile Company, which has since conducted an extensive business in the town. After having sold his business Mr. Rishof retired from the activities of life and has been living in his well-established home in the town of Gary.

Mr. Rishof has always been interested in the agricultural affairs of the county and is the owner of four hundred and forty acres of splendid

land, all of which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He is also interested in the State Bank of Gary and has long been recognized as one of the prominent and influential men of the county. Since coming to this part of the state of Minnesota Mr. Rishof has seen many changes in the general aspect of the country. The wild prairie and the wooded tracts have been transformed into splendid farms, with well cultivated fields and beautiful homes; and where once grew the tall prairie grass and forest trees are now to be seen broad fields of growing grain and splendid herds of cattle and droves of hogs. Beautiful and substantial houses and well-equipped barns have taken the place of the log shack and the dug-out. Splendid schools and churches have been erected and the general aspect of the country is one of progress and prosperity. To those early settlers is due much honor and credit for their untiring efforts in the development of one of the greatest farming districts in the United States.

In the year 1874 Tron Rishof was united in marriage to Marie Holt, also a native of Norway and the daughter of Ole and Martha (Risberg) Holt. Her parents were also natives of that country and there they were educated and grew to maturity and were married. After their marriage they established their home in the land of their nativity, where they continued to live for some years, at the end of which time they decided that they would seek their home in America. Upon coming to the United States they proceeded on out to Minnesota and were among the early settlers in Fillmore county, where they settled in the year 1869. They remained in Fillmore county for two years and then moved to Otter Tail county, locating near the town of Pelican Rapids, where Mr. Holt homesteaded the farm which he later developed and improved. The wife and mother had died while the family were living in Fillmore county. In those days the nearest market was at Alexandria, and there the settlers had to go for their household supplies. This trip was not an easy one, for there were no roads and the means of travel were not as they are today. To Mr. and Mrs. Holt were born eight children, those besides Mrs. Rishof, being, Arne, Ole (deceased), Martin, Breda (deceased), Haakon (deceased), Mete and Johana. Mr. and Mrs. Holt were active members of the Lutheran church, took great interest in the development of the district in which they had settled and they were ardent advocates of the establishment of good schools and the erection of churches. After having developed his farm, the father engaged successfully in general farming and stock raising for a number of years, and there he spent the remainder of his days.

To Tron and Marie (Holt) Rishof have been born the following children: Theodore, Olaf, Godfred, Edward, Oliver, Abel, Gena, Emilie and Clara, all of whom are living with the exception of the last named. Both Mr. and Mrs. Rishof are prominent members of the Lutheran church, in the faith of which they have reared their children. They have always been liberal subscribers to the support of the local church and have been much interested in the various benevolences of the organization. Having come to the state in an early day, Mr. and Mrs. Rishof have witnessed the transition of the territory from the primeval state to one of the finest sections of the Union. To all this work they have given their best efforts, and to them is due much of the honor for the present condition of things.

Not alone has Mr. Rishof looked to his own interests, but he has ever taken a keen interest in the general affairs of the county in which he has lived for so many years and where he is held in such high regard and esteem. His life has been a worthy one and he and his wife are today recognized as among the influential persons of the district in which they live. Mr. Rishof has in no sense been a seeker after office, yet he has had much to do with the civic life of his home community.

ALBERT E. MOLL.

Albert E. Moll, farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, was born in Hennepin county, Minnesota, in 1897. He is a son of John and Katherine (Baners) Moll, both natives of Alsace, who came to the United States single, the mother before the Civil War, accompanied by her parents. Her father homesteaded land near Fairbault, Minnesota. He was a soldier in the Civil War and died in the service. John Moll came to America after the war and located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he was married, and later took up farming in Hennepin county, south of that city, remaining there until about 1882, when he came to Clay county and took up a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Humboldt township. He developed the land into a good farm and established a comfortable home, spending the rest of his life there, dying some time ago. His widow is living in Idaho. She is a member of the Lutheran church, but he was a Catholic. To these parents the following children were born: Albert E., Sophia, John, Louise, Clara, Arthur, Maggie, Louis and Philomin.

Albert E. Moll grew to manhood on the farm and attended the public schools, principally in Wilkin county, just across the line, for there was no school in his district in Clay county when he was a boy. When a young man he began life for himself by buying one-half of section 26, Humboldt township, but later sold out and bought his father's homestead, on which he has since made his home. He has made many important improvements on the same, has erected modern buildings, and has been successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. In 1914 he bought back one hundred and sixty acres of his former half section and has since farmed on a large scale.

In 1891 Mr. Moll was married to Lona Sounier, who was born in Serwomoni, France, in which country her parents lived and died. She came to America about 1889. She is one of three children, namely: Quest, who came to America with his sister Lona and is now a rural mail carrier out of Barnesville, Minnesota; Lona, who was second in order of birth, and Emil, who served three years in the French army in his young manhood, later moved to Mankirk, Switzerland, entered business there and has since operated a café there. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Moll: Nellie, Edward, Elizabeth, Adolph, Walter (deceased), Eugene, Lawrence and Harold.

Mr. Moll helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Barnesville and has since been a stockholder in the same. He also assisted in organizing the first creamery in Barnesville, known as the farmers creamery. Politically, he is independent. He is serving as road overseer at this writing, and for the past four years has served as a member of the school board in his district. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church.

LEWIS GARDEN.

Lewis Garden, editor of the *Gary Graphic* and mayor of Gary, one of Norman county's most influential men, was born at St. Peter, in Nicollet county, Minnesota, February 20, 1872, and is the son of Ole L. and Maria (Dahl) Garden, both of whom were born in Norway, where they were reared. The former came to the United States in the year 1868 and the latter in the year 1870, both locating in Nicollet county, Minnesota, where they were later married. After their marriage they established their home in that county and there they resided until 1878. During his early residence in the county, Ole L. Garden worked on the railroad and later as a farm hand.

After his marriage he devoted his time to farming and in the year 1878 he and his wife moved to Norman county, becoming the first settlers in what later came to be organized as Bear Park township, although one man had filed for a tract of land previous to this time. On coming to the county, Ole L. Garden homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land. There being no settlers in the territory at that time, the little family established their home on the isolated plains, and there erected a house in which they lived for some years. The task of developing the tract was a hard one and the family experienced many of the hardships of the early life on the plains, their early life in their new home being lonely and hard. There they experienced all the hardships and privations of the early settlers in their endeavors to make a home for themselves and their family. The land in time was broken and the crops planted and the harvests gathered and the little family became, in a way, prosperous. The farm after a time was improved and placed under cultivation and there Mr. Garden engaged in general farming and stock raising with success. He is still living on the place at an advanced age and continues to take much interest in the management of the place and the affairs of the community. His wife died in the year 1887 and her death was mourned by a large circle of friends, who held her in the highest regard and esteem. She was a woman of pleasing personality and one who took great interest in all the activities of the district in which she lived. Mr. Garden also took great interest in local affairs, was one of the influential men who assisted in the organization of the township, was a member of the first township board and later served as township treasurer. He and his wife were the parents of the following children: Lewis, Christina, Regena, Olaf, John, Oswald and Martin. Regena is the widow of H. B. Lawager and lives at Crookston, Minnesota. Olaf is a resident of Billings, Montana; John lives at Wolf Point, Montana; Oswald is on the old farm, and Martin is the manager of the farmers general store at Waukan. Mr. and Mrs. Garden were long members of the Lutheran church and were prominent in all the services of the local society, to the support of which they were liberal subscribers. Mr. Garden was one of the organizers of the local church and had much to do with its early success. Both Mr. and Mrs. Garden were active in all the affairs of the early settlement and had much to do with the growth and the development of the community in which they lived and where they were always held in the highest regard and esteem by all. Mr. Garden is possessed of much force of character and his interest in the township as well as the county is evidence of his patriotism and his high regard for his home community.

Lewis Garden was but a lad when he came to Norman county and he received his primary education in the schools of Norman county. During the first six years the family lived in Norman county there were no English schools. Then the schools were in a measure established and the first year they had a school term of one month and the next year they had two months, continuing thus until district No. 56 was in time organized and there Mr. Garden attended school and later at the Academy at Willmar. After spending one term at the academy he attended Park Region Lutheran College at Fergus Falls and was graduated from the business department of that institution. Upon leaving college Mr. Garden became bookkeeper in a store at Gary and remained thus engaged for nearly two years, at the end of which time he and his brothers-in-law, Theo. and O. T. Rishof, built a store building at Gary and entered into the general merchandise business. For the next five years Mr. Garden remained in the store, he and his partners conducting the business successfully. At the end of that time, in 1890, Mr. Garden was appointed postmaster of his home town, which position he held for fifteen years with entire satisfaction to all the people of the district, always giving the same careful attention the business of the office that he gave to his own affairs. In the year 1909 he purchased the *Gary Graphic* and since then has been the editor and publisher of that sprightly and locally popular journal. Through the columns of his paper, Mr. Garden has wielded a large influence, both in the political and the moral development of the county. He is a recognized writer of force and his editorials carry much weight in the community in which the *Graphic* circulates. Not alone with matters of morals and politics does he deal in the columns of his paper, but devotes much space to the general matters of interest to all the people of the county, and in this manner he has exerted a marked influence on the general growth and development of the entire community.

In 1899, Lewis Garden was united in marriage to Gena Matilda Rishof, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Tron and Marie (Holt) Rishof, the former of whom was the first postmaster at Gary and further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume, the Rishofs having been among the earliest settlers in this part of Minnesota. To Lewis and Gena Matilda (Rishof) Garden have been born three children, Bernice Evelyn, Raymond Emory and Clarice Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Garden are members of the Lutheran church and have long taken an active interest in the affairs of the community in which they have lived for so many years, having had much to do with the advancement of the schools and the moral and social conditions of their home town. Mr. Garden has always been a

leader and adviser in the political party with which he is identified and is recognized as one of the substantial and influential men of the county. He has served as village clerk and is and has for some time been mayor of the city. During a recent session of the Legislature he was the assistant engrossing clerk and in that position he gave most efficient service. He has devoted much of his time of late years to the handling of real estate and in this line also has been quite successful.

REV. T. A. HAGEN.

Among the mountains and valleys of southern Norway, along Langesund Fjord and back of Nordsjo, skien of Kragero, lies the ancient province of Telemarken. In Telemarken the oldest church is known as Hitterdal church and its history dates back to 1180—to the time of St. Olaf. It was from Telemarken that some of the earliest settlers of Minnesota came, and they have proved to be an enterprising, thrifty people. Among these Telemarkens is the Rev. T. A. Hagen, pastor of the United Lutheran church at Hendrum and in spiritual charge of three other congregations of that communion in that vicinity. He was born at Saude, Telemarken, March 12, 1863, son of Anders and Bergete (Naset) Hagen, also Telemarkens, who came to Minnesota in 1885 and located on a farm in the neighborhood of Ashby, in Grant county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Anders Hagen and his wife were members of the United Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were thirteen of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being as follow: Ingeborg, who married Ole Olson; Anna, who married Andrew Eken; Margaret, deceased; Bergete, deceased; Ingeborg, who married B. B. Schmidt, and Halvor, Torsten A., Ole, Andrew, Tilia, Louis and Hulda.

T. A. Hagen remained in his native land until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1883, he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating at Ashby, in Grant county, where he remained until 1887, in which year he moved up into the valley of the Red river and for ten years thereafter was engaged in teaching school in Norman county, meanwhile sedulously pursuing his studies with the design, entertained from boyhood, of entering the gospel ministry. In 1898 he entered the seminary of the United Lutheran church at Minneapolis and upon

completing the course there was ordained to the ministry of that church, the ordination ceremony taking place at Minneapolis on June 17, 1900. Following his ordination the Rev. T. A. Hagen was stationed in charge of a congregation in Kittson county and remained there for thirteen years, during which time he organized three congregations and before he left had three ministers in charge of a large field originally covered by his ministrations. It was in 1913 that Mr. Hagen was transferred to the charge at Hendrum, a change which brought him back to Norman county, the scene of his earlier endeavors as a school teacher, and he since has been located there, doing an excellent work. There are four churches attached to Mr. Hagen's pastorate, those besides the church at Hendrum being the church at St. Pauli (north), the church at Concordia (east), and the church at Pontopidan (east), his earnest personal influence and power for doing good thus being directed over a wide territory. During this long period of ministry Mr. Hagen has held several offices in the United Lutheran church. By appointment he, for some time, held the office of visitator for the Crookston circuit and was then elected to that office, serving thus for four years. He also, for four years, was a member of the mission board of the church.

On January 2, 1884, the year after his arrival in America, the Rev. T. A. Hagen was united in marriage to Anna Lee, daughter of Ole Lee and wife, also Telemarkens, and to this union nine children have been born, namely: Clara, wife of the Rev. C. B. Runsvold; Bertha, wife of J. A. Emanuelson, a farmer, and Anna, Alfred, Olga, Esther, Olaf, Valborg and Alice. Mrs. Hagen's parents, both of whom are now deceased, spent all their lives in their native country, their home being on a farm.

OLE L. RINDAHL.

Ole L. Rindahl, a well-known retired farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, owner of six hundred and eighty acres of land, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this county since 1880. He was born in the county of Faaberg, in Norway on August 23, 1845, a son of Lars O. and Olia (Rise) Rindahl, natives also of that country.

Lars O. Rindahl and his wife immigrated to the United States in 1858 and located first in Clayton county, Iowa, where they lived with relatives for two years. In 1860 they moved to Nicollet county, Minnesota, by ox-

team, the journey occupying three weeks, and in that county Lars O. Rindahl settled on a tract of school land on which he farmed during the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1865, his widow surviving until 1879, in which year she died. At the time of the Indian outbreak resulting in the massacre at New Ulm, in 1862, Mr. Rindahl and his family with many others hurried for protection to St. Peter, his son, Ole L., going to the defence of New Ulm, where he remained in defence of the white people until the Indians were finally dispersed and order restored. Lars O. Rindahl and wife were the parents of two children, the subject of this sketch having a sister Elie, who married Johan Larson, of Polk county, Minnesota, and who lived across the Norman county line.

Ole L. Rindahl had opportunity for but little education in his native country. In 1880 he came to Norman county from Nicollet county, where the parents had previously been living, in that county having been the owner of a tract of land. He settled on the farm which he still owns, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres of land directly across the road from his present dwelling, proved up on the same and proceeded at once to improve and cultivate it. He also homesteaded a quarter section where his present home is located and here he has been living ever since. In the aggregate Mr. Rindahl's land holdings amount to six hundred and eighty acres, all but one farm of one hundred and sixty acres being in one body. He is also the owner of a quarter section of pine land in St. Louis county, Minnesota, and one hundred and sixty acres of pine land in Cook county, Minnesota. Mr. Rindahl put some fine buildings on the home farm, including two good houses, and during his active life was engaged in general farming. For the past four years he has been living retired on the home place, having rented his other land, and is regarded throughout the township as one of the most prosperous retired farmers in the community.

In 1869 Ole L. Rindahl was united in marriage to Karen Hoveland, who was born on December 10, 1850, a daughter of Jens and Cherstie (Rindahl) Hoveland, natives of Norway, who immigrated to Wisconsin in 1857 and remained there until 1862, living in Rock county. In the latter year they, in company with twelve other families travelling by ox-team, moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota, driving eighty head of cattle through, where they settled down, except Jens Hoveland and family, who proceeded to Nicollet county, arriving there at the time of the Indian outbreak resulting in the New Ulm massacre in 1862. Jens Hoveland died in Goodhue county, and his wife died in Nicollet county. They were the parents of eight children as follow: Bertha, deceased; Lars, deceased; Ole, deceased; Simon,

deceased; Johanah, living; Johan, deceased; Amund, deceased, and Karen, the wife of Ole Rindahl. Of the foregoing children, Lars Hoveland served with a Minnesota regiment during the Civil War, going from Goodhue county, where he had been living. Ole, Simon and Johan Hoveland enlisted in 1861 in Wisconsin and served until the close of the war, having re-enlisted at the end of their first term of three years, serving throughout with the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rindahl the following children have been born: Lawrence, deceased; Laura Christina, Jens Oluf, Alexander, Oscar Benjamin, Carl Laurence and Albert Christian. The Rindahl family are members of the Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Rindahl helped to organize the Faaberg congregation of the first Lutheran church at Rindahl, the organizing meeting being held on a pile of logs on Mr. Rindahl's farm. He assisted in the organization of Bear Park township and served on the first township board, and has held township and school offices from time to time. The first postoffice at Rindahl was located in an addition to Mr. Rindahl's claim shanty. He also has been energetic in the promotion of mercantile undertakings and helped to organize the Rindahl Mercantile Company when the farmers bought it of Jens and Carl Rindahl, who had been operating the store as Rindahl Brothers for about eleven years. Mr. Rindahl helped to organize the Rindahl Creamery Company and has held office in that corporation, and he assisted in the organization of the Farmers Elevator Company at Fertile and has been on the board of directors of the same almost from the beginning. Mrs. Rindahl was overseer of the Wild Rice Orphans Home for several years.

MARTIN FREDERICK HANSON.

Among the native sons of Minnesota who have lived their lives in the state of their nativity and are today among the prosperous business men of Gary, is Martin Frederick Hanson, who was born in Freeborn county, this state, July 3, 1876, the son of Hans and Carrie Olson (Kernvold) Hanson, natives of Norway, where they received their education and were married. Hans Hanson was born on January 27, 1827, and his wife first saw the light of day on December 24, 1829. For a time after their marriage they continued to live in the land where they were born, and in the year 1853 they decided to seek a home in America, where they might the better have an

opportunity to obtain a home for themselves and their family. Following their arrival in the United States they established their home at Round Prairie, Wisconsin, where they lived for a short time before locating at Kamrar, Iowa. In the latter place Mr. Hanson worked at his trade, that of a tailor, which he had learned in Norway, and remained there until 1858, when he moved with his family to Albert Lea, Minnesota, where he established the first tailor shop in the place. He later located on a homestead near that town and there he carried on his trade, in connection with his work on the farm. His homestead consisted of one hundred and sixty acres of splendid land, although it was for the most part wild prairie when the family established their home on the tract. The farm was in time developed and improved and there the father died on February 25, 1911, and his widow on July 27, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson were active, hard-working people, and until within a few years before his death Mr. Hanson was active in the management of his farm and continued at work at his trade. They were the parents of the following children: Anna, Helen, Marie Ole, Charles, Peter, Bertha Louisa, Adolph Wilhelm, Bertha Louisa (second), Hans Thomas, Caroline Marie, Emma, Sophia Randine, Albert and Martin F., of whom Helen, Charles, Peter, Adolph, Hans, Emma, Sophia, Albert and Martin are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson were active members of the Lutheran church and took much interest in all religious work.

Martin Frederick Hanson received his education in the schools of Freeborn county, Minnesota, and there he grew to manhood. For a time he worked in a drug store at Albert Lea and at Hartland, after which he came to Norman county, where he worked, as a farm hand, for his brothers, Charles and Peter, from 1895 to 1898, in which latter year he was then united in marriage to Randa Sulerud, the daughter of Carl Sulerud and wife, highly respected people of the county. After his marriage he returned to Freeborn county and there purchased the half of his father's old farm and engaged in general farming until the year 1901, when he returned to Norman county and purchased a farm, which he operated, in connection with the farm of his father-in-law, for three years. He then sold his farm and purchased an interest in the Gary Mercantile Company and at the same time became manager of the Wilcox Lumber Company, which later position he still holds, having not only given satisfaction to his employers but by his business methods has won the confidence and the respect of the entire public. He has always taken a keen interest in such enterprises as have had to do with the general growth and prosperity of the district, is one of the interested stockholders of the Farmers State Bank of Gary, a stockholder in the Wilcox Lumber Company and also does quite a business in the real-estate way.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have two children, Mertle C. and Harrold C. The family are active members of the Lutheran church, have long been identified with the social and the religious life of their home community and are held in the highest regard by all who know them, their interest in the moral and educational development of the community having much to do with the high standing of their home town. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson are staunch supporters of the public schools and are liberal supporters of the local religious institutions. They have a fine home, nicely located, and their generous hospitality is widely recognized by their many friends.

Mr. Hanson is a worthy member of the local lodge of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons and has had much to do with the success of the local organization, and is a member of the American Geographical Society, Washington, D. C. He has always taken a keen interest in the civic affairs of his home city and his worth and ability have been recognized by the voters of Gary. For a time he served as village clerk and also during his residence on the farm served as township clerk. He has also served on the village council and was for a time president of the local school board, to all his official duties giving the same careful thought and attention that he gives to his own business.

P. A. OTTERSON.

P. A. Otterson, well-known and enterprising young dealer in agricultural implements, threshing-machines and tractors at Twin Valley, was born on a farm in Worth county, Iowa, March 19, 1885, son of Peter A. and Regina (Serspet) Otterson, natives of Norway, who came to the United States about 1879 and settled in Iowa. Peter A. Otterson developed a good piece of farm property in Worth county and there spent the remainder of his life, his death occurring in 1900. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being Clara, Nicholas, Ottalie, Olaf, Ruth, Christine and Ida.

Reared on the home farm in Iowa, P. A. Otterson received his schooling in the schools of his home district and remained at home until he was eighteen years of age, when, in 1902, he came up into Minnesota and located at Audubon, in Becker county, in the vicinity of which place he for two years thereafter was engaged working on farms. In the fall of

1904 he went up into the Dominion of Canada and homesteaded a quarter of a section of Saskatchewan land, which he "proved up" and on which he remained until the spring of 1909, when he returned to Minnesota and located at Voss, in Becker county, where he opened a general store. In 1912 he disposed of his interests there and moved over into Norman county, locating at Flom, where for a year thereafter he was engaged as a clerk in a general store. He then resumed farming and was thus engaged until the spring of 1914, when, shortly after his marriage, he located at Twin Valley and there became one of the organizers of the Big Four Implement Company and engaged in the general agricultural-implement business. In the following spring (1915) Mr. Otterson became sole owner of the establishment created by that company and has continued the same, handling a full and complete line of farm implements, threshing-machines, tractors and the like, and is doing a good business, one of the best-known merchants in that part of the county.

On January 15, 1914, P. A. Otterson was united in marriage to Jennie Knutson, daughter of Martin Knutson and wife, and to this union two children have been born, Mildred and Pearl. Mr. and Mrs. Otterson have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and take a proper interest in the general social activities of the village. They are members of the United Lutheran church and take an interested part in church work, as well as in other neighborhood good works.

PETER O. INGBERG.

In a local work published about 1901 having to do particularly with the lives and the works of the men who had up to that time contributed so much to the development of the farms and farming interests of Norman county there was presented the following biographical sketch relating to the late Peter O. Ingberg:

"One of these fine estates is owned and operated by Peter O. Ingberg, who resides in section 32 (Hendrum township), and has accumulated a good property by dint of his own efforts. He was born in Norway on October 31, 1852, and was a son of Ole H. and Emma (Olson) Ingberg, both of whom were natives of Norway. The father died in Norman county, Minnesota, in 1892; the mother, in Norway in 1872.

"Our subject received a common-school education in his native land, and then assisted his father on the home farm and received good training in this vocation. At the age of twenty years he decided to try his fortune in the New World and, accordingly, left his native country and landed in America, locating at once in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, where he continued his residence four years. He went to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1876, and settled on section 32, in Hendrum township, taking eighty acres of government land as a homestead. He built a log house and a log barn and used oxen for the work of his place for the first six years. His trading point nearest to his farm was Moorhead, thirty miles distant, and the trip there and return took three days. Mr. Ingberg traded to some extent with the Indians and he endured many hardships and privations in the early days there. He is now the owner of four hundred acres of land, all of which is improved. He has erected a good residence and commodious barn, in which he has ample hay room, and the other buildings of the place supply all shelter necessary for products and stock. He has a flowing well on the farm and the land, being located on the bank of the Wild Rice river, affords native timber and is admirably adapted to general farming. He keeps about six head of horses, forty head of cattle, thirty sheep and other stock, from which a good income is derived.

"Our subject was married in 1879 to Emma Johnson, who was born in Norway, January 18, 1852. The following children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ingberg: Ingvald, Mary, Joseph, Helen, Bernhart, William, Albert, Samuel, Oscar (deceased), and Mary (deceased). Mr. Ingberg is a gentleman of active public spirit and he has served four years as county commissioner, and has also served as chairman of the town board, clerk of the school district, and is the present treasurer. He is a man of advanced thought and studies the topics of the times, and in political sentiment is identified with the Populist party. He and his family are members of the Lutheran church."

To the above may be added the information that Mr. Ingberg remained on his homestead farm until his death, which occurred on December 20, 1915. After the above statement of his material possessions had been made he continued successful in his farming operations and became the owner of eight hundred and forty acres of land. One of his specialties was the breeding of Angus cattle and his sons continue successfully engaged in that line. Mr. Ingberg helped to organize what is now the State Bank of Hendrum and was vice president of the same from the day of its organization until the time of his death. He also helped to organize the Farmers Ele-

vator Company and the local creamery company at Hendrum and was otherwise active in local business affairs, ever giving of his time and his energies to the promotion of such enterprises as were calculated to advance the common good. In addition to his public services, mentioned above, he also served for some time as township clerk and in other ways did his share in advancing the civic interests of his home township and county. He helped organize Hendrum township when it was erected a civic unit of Norman county and also helped to organize Emmanuel Lutheran church, in the affairs of which he ever took a warm interest. Mr. Ingberg's widow is still living on the old home place. His children, Joseph B., William and Helen, constitute the firm of Ingberg Brothers and together they continue to operate their father's estate.

MEKKEL O. LEE.

Mekkel O. Lee, a well-known stock raiser and grain farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county, where he owns three hundred and twenty-eight acres of well-improved land, was born in Norway on August 27, 1863, the son of Ole Olson and Christie (Osen) Lee, both natives of Norway, the former being a farmer there. The father died in Norway, but the mother came to Minnesota with her son, Mekkel, and here died in Norman county. The elder Lee and wife were the parents of eight children, namely: Lev, who died in New York when the family were coming out to Minnesota after they had arrived in America; Ole, living in Norman county, Lee township; Gunder, Ole and Ingeborg, all of whom died in Norman county; Christopher, who died in Norway before the family emigrated; Mekkel, the subject of this review, and Nels, living in Lee township, Norman county. The family were members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they took a deep interest.

Mekkel O. Lee, who attended the common schools of Norway during his boyhood, grew to manhood on the old farm back in the land of his nativity, but when he reached the age of eighteen he accompanied his mother and her family to the New World where they had decided to set up their home. After they arrived on American soil, in 1881, they came directly to Minnesota and settled in Lee township, Norman county. In that same year Mekkel Lee went to Hendrum township where he bought eighty acres of railroad land, on which he placed improvements and where he lived for thirty years. As the years passed, he extended his holdings out into

the bare prairie which he speedily improved with the erection of good buildings, and brought under cultivation. Now he has three hundred and twenty-eight acres on which he carries on general farming and raises graded Holstein cattle.

On April 7, 1888, Mekkel O. Lee was united in marriage to Anna Nelsdatter Caldevand, who also was born in Norway, daughter of Nels and Ginneye (Birka) Caldevand, both also natives of Norway, the former of whom died there and the latter of whom is still living there. To Mr. and Mrs. Lee fourteen children have been born, namely: Nels, who is farming in the Peace river valley in Canada; Selma and Clara, twins, both of whom are married and now living in Canada; Melvin, deceased; Orlando, owner of a farm nine miles east of that owned by his father; Ingval, who enlisted for service in the European War, December 18, 1915, and went to the front with a Canadian regiment and is still serving with honor and bravery with that regiment, despite the fact that he has been twice wounded during his service; Martin, Rachel, Fritjof, Sarah, Hilda, Theodore, Inga and Ingman. Mr. Lee and family are devoted members of the Lutheran church and he helped to organize the Concordia Lutheran church. He has also had a good citizen's interest in the common enterprises of the community, as he helped to organize the creamery company, the Farmers Elevator Company and the Farmers State Bank at Hendrum.

MAX RICHARDS.

Max Richards is another member of that family who is prominently identified with the farming life of Kragnes township, Clay county, although he has been living in North Dakota for several years. He was born in Calumet, Michigan, in 1874, a son of Robert and Ellen (Giffin) Richards, the former of whom was born in Cornwall, England, in December, 1844, and the latter in Belfast, Ireland, in August of the same year. Mrs. Richards came to the United States early in life and died in 1913. Robert Richards attended the public schools of his native place and there grew to manhood. At the age of twenty years, in 1864, he immigrated to America, his first place of residence being Calumet, Michigan, where he worked in the copper mines for some time as foreman. In 1883 he moved to Minnesota and settled on a farm in Kragnes township, Clay county, and engaged there in

general farming and the raising of stock up to the time of his death in February, 1912; his death, however, occurred in Fargo, North Dakota. Robert Richards and wife were the parents of seven children, as follow: John, deceased; Tom; Max, the subject of this sketch; Alexandria; Margaret; Will and Gill. Of these children, Tom, Gill, and Margaret, are noticed in other parts of this volume, and to these reviews the reader is referred for further particulars respecting their individuality.

Max Richards was educated in the schools of Calumet, Michigan, and of Clay county, and grew to manhood on his father's farm. In common with his other brothers and sister he inherited land in Clay county, about three years ago, his share being eighty acres, located in Kragnes township, and on this land general farming is carried on. Mr. Richards has a house and two lots in Moorhead, this county. He lives in Fargo, North Dakota, where he is deputy sheriff and jailer, of Cass county. He has been living there for about fifteen years, for more than eleven years of which time he has occupied his present position. Mr. Richards has money invested in the Calumet mines in Michigan.

On February 18, 1915, Max Richards was united in marriage to Jennie Gravell, who was born in 1892 in Watertown, South Dakota, the marriage taking place in Fargo. Mrs. Richards' parents live in Fargo, where they are the owners of house property in the town and are also engaged in the wholesale paint and wall-paper business. They lived originally in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but have been residents of Fargo for the past twenty years, and are well known in the business life of the community.

BERNT ANDERSON.

Bernt Anderson, a well-known retired farmer, living in Spring Creek township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born in that country on November 1, 1846, a son of Andrew and Anna Bright, both natives of Sweden, who came to America some years after their son, Bernt, had settled in this part of Minnesota. Andrew Bright homesteaded a quarter section of land in Spring Creek township and there spent the remainder of his life. His widow died at the home of her son, Bernt Anderson. By a former marriage Mrs. Bright was the mother of one son, Ole Loigren, who died. By her marriage to Mr. Bright she was the mother of three children, Carrie, Ole and Bernt.

Bernt Anderson immigrated to America in 1865, going on arrival to the state of Wisconsin and there married Johanah Stephenson. He went west to Pembina county, North Dakota, and took a homestead tract, and during his absence in that place his wife died. They were the parents of one child, Albert, also deceased. Later, in Wisconsin, Mr. Anderson married Anna Stephenson, sister of his first wife. In 1881 they moved to Norman county and located at Rindahl and there he operated the first store the place ever had; later he gave up the store and bought a relinquishment right of one hundred and sixty acres in a homestead in Spring Creek township. He was one of the early settlers there and having proved up on the holding, proceeded to get the place improved and ready for crops, in a short time having everything going in good shape. As he prospered in his farming operations he added more land, finally acquiring four hundred and twenty-one acres of prime land. In 1902 Mr. and Mrs. Anderson left the farm, first making a trip to old friends in Wisconsin, and established themselves in the following year in Fertile, this state, where they have since lived retired from the active affairs of farm and business life.

By his second marriage Mr. Anderson became the father of two children, Julia and Bilof, the latter of whom lives in North Dakota. Mr. Anderson for years had given close attention to local civic affairs and was chairman of the township board while living in Spring Creek township and also was clerk of the school board and treasurer of the same for many years. He helped organize the first school district and helped build the first school house, which is still standing. He helped to organize the Sundahl Lutheran church, assisted in the work of promoting the creameries at Fertile and Betcher and during his active years was regarded as one of the most progressive citizens of the community with which he has been identified almost from the days of its first settlement, he and his wife carrying with them in their retirement the good wishes of all.

In 1901 Julia Anderson was married to Hans Hemming, who was born in Norway, a son of Knut and Martha (Stockland) Hemmingstad, farming people, the former of whom died in that country, where the widow still lives. Hans Hemming, on coming to this country, settled in Norman county in 1900 and started farming in Spring Creek township. After his marriage in 1901 he moved to Nobles county, Minnesota, and farmed there for three years, at the end of which time he returned to Spring Creek township and farmed for two years. His next move was to Adams county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, remaining there for two years, at the end of which time he moved to Polk county, Minne-

sota, and farmed for five years. In 1913 Mr. Hemming moved onto his father-in-law's old homestead, on which he has since resided and where he contemplates making his permanent home. To Mr. and Mrs. Hemming the following children have been born: Alice M., Gladys B., Helen E., Harry L., Kermit R., Arnold (deceased), Ernest G. and Leona M. The family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works. Mr. Hemming was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company at Fleming and is also interested in the Peoples Supply Company at Gary.

CHESTER S. PILOT.

One of the promising young business men of Clay county is Chester S. Pilot, cashier of the bank at Baker. He was born in Kent, Minnesota, October 20, 1887, and is a son of Sidney S. and Louisa (Kruger) Pilot. The father was born at Osseo, this state, and the mother was born in LeSueur county, Minnesota. Sidney S. Pilot teamed for the government across the wild plains of the Northwest in the early days. He was a teamster in the army of General Custer for some time prior to the massacre at the Little Big Horn in Montana, in 1876, and he was at Ft. Abercrombie when the Indians were disarmed by Captain Potter. About 1880 he came to Minnesota and took up a homestead in Roberts township, Wilkin county, which he developed into a good farm and which he operated with gratifying results until 1900, when he retired from active life and moved to Moorhead, where his death occurred on November 4, 1907. His widow is still residing in Moorhead. She belongs to the Congregational church, of which he was also a member. To these parents the following children were born: Ruby, Chester S., Arnold, Eckly, Alvin and Catherine.

Chester S. Pilot grew to manhood on the home farm in Wilkin county, Minnesota, where he worked during vacation periods. In the winter time he attended district school No. 9, in Roberts township; later was a student at the McCauleyville school, then studied awhile in the schools of LeSueur county, in 1899. After 1900 he went to school in Moorhead and was graduated from the high school there in 1907. During the two years following he worked for a grain company under Colonel Morton, of Fargo, then was in the railroad service with the Northern Pacific, stationed at Dilworth. His services with both the above named companies were eminently satisfactory. The bank at Baker, Clay county, was organized in 1911 by

L. A. Huntoon and on February 16, 1912, the bank was opened for business, with Mr. Pilot as cashier. He has continued to discharge the duties of this responsible position ever since in an able and creditable manner, being alert, faithful and courteous to the patrons of the bank. The growth and prestige of this sound and safe institution have been gradual and satisfactory from the first.

On October 20, 1914, Chester S. Pilot was married to Pearl Brunner, a daughter of Charles Frederick Brunner, of Meadville, Pennsylvania. Mr. Pilot is a member of the Congregational church at Moorhead. Fraternally, he belongs to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Daughters of Rebekah. He is the present treasurer of Alliance township.

MARTIN G. LEE.

Martin G. Lee, a well-known farmer of Hendrum township, where he has lived for thirty-three years, the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of well-improved land, was born in Norway on May 30, 1863, the son of Gullbrand and Marit (Overbee) Lee, both natives of Norway where they were born, reared, married and died, the father being a farmer. They were the parents of eleven children, namely: Gullbrand, who was for fifty years a member of the fire department in Christiania, Norway, and is now pensioned; Iver, whose death occurred in Norway; Abraham, now living in Stevens county, Minnesota; Halstan, still living on the old home farm in Norway; Ole, who died in Polk county, Minnesota; Martin G., the subject of this review; Inger, still living on the old farm in Norway; Bertha, living in Stevens county, Minnesota; Carrie, who lives in Kent, Washington; Marit, who died in Crookston, Minnesota, and Andrew, who died in Morris, Minnesota. The family were all members of the Lutheran church.

Martin G. Lee spent his boyhood and reached maturity on the old farm in Norway, where he received his early education; but in 1883, when he had reached the age of twenty, he decided to become an adopted son of America and accordingly emigrated to Minnesota in that year, settling in Stevens county, where he was a farm hand for one year. In 1884 he left Stevens county for the county of Norman, where he has continued to live. He first worked there on farms, where he gained a livelihood and much experience in American farming methods which was very valuable to him when he began farming for himself. In 1889 he decided to seize the oppor-

tunity to become a landowner in his own right and bought one hundred and sixty acres of Hendrum township land, on which farm he has since lived. As his holding was nothing but the bare prairie, much labor was entailed to make the needed improvements and to place it under cultivation. Nothing daunted by the size and difficulty of the task, he set to work, planted a grove and erected excellent buildings and now has a well-kept and profitably cultivated farm, where he carries on general farming.

On November 30, 1889, Martin G. Lee was united in marriage to Gunhild Brown, who was born in Wisconsin, May 3, 1871, the daughter of Ole and Olia Brown, natives of Norway, the former of whom emigrated to America in 1852, and the latter in 1860. Mr. and Mrs. Martin have nine children, all of whom are living, namely: Gena, Oscar, Lawrence, Adolph, Gilmer, Clifford, Minnie, Ida and George. The family are staunch adherents to the Lutheran church, of which denomination they are active and earnest members.

Mr. Martin is a member of the Socialist party and has been deeply interested in the civil affairs of his community, being a member of the Hendrum township board for nine years. In addition to his interest in the government of the township, he is also closely connected with the business interests of the community, having helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Halstad, a similar company at Hendrum and the creamery and the Farmers State Bank at Hendrum, and is also connected with the State Bank of Hendrum.

ANDREW HOLES.

The memorial annals of Clay county carry no more interesting and far-reaching account of any one of its citizens than is to be found in a brief recital of the life of the late Andrew Holes—teacher, farmer, gold prospector and real-estate man. He was born in Ithaca, New York, February 10, 1836, and died at Moorhead, this county, August 1, 1903, a son of James and Mary (Hibbert) Holes, natives of England.

James Holes was educated in the schools of his native England and in 1834 he and his family immigrated to the United States, going to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he later became the owner of a farm of land, which he operated for some years. He later moved to Tioga county, New York, where he died some years later. His wife, Mary Hibbert, also a

native of England, died about eighteen years ago while living at Fargo, North Dakota. They were the parents of the following children: Sarah, who died in England at the age of two years; Samuel, who died at the age of fifty-one years in St. Cloud, Minnesota; George, who died at Owego, New York; Andrew, the subject of this memorial sketch; William, now living in St. Cloud at the age of seventy-five years, and James, deceased.

Andrew Holes was educated in the schools of Pennsylvania and on going to New York state he continued his studies there, finishing at an academy in New York. In 1853, at the age of seventeen, he moved to LaPorte, Indiana, and taught school twelve miles out of that place for one winter term, later returning to New York, where he remained until 1857. He then spent a short period in St. Cloud, this state, after which he took a claim of one hundred and sixty acres in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, which he proceeded to improve, living there for some time and returning to New York in 1859. In the fall of 1860 he went to Michigan, where he trapped for pine mink and marten for seven months and in which enterprise he was successful, selling the hides at good prices in Detroit, that state, and again returned to New York. On the next trip to Minnesota, Mr. Holes went to St. Paul, taking the stage to Georgetown, Clay county, going thence with three hundred Canadians to the Pacific slope by ox-team and mules, the journey occupying six months. The party bought a claim and operated it successfully, hiring sixty-five men at seven dollars per day. Mr. Holes acquired a gold claim in British Columbia, going there through Yellow Head Pass, and in 1865 took the gold dust to mint at Philadelphia, where it was coined. In the following year he returned to St. Cloud, where he embarked in the real-estate business, having spent two winters in a business college at St. Paul.

In 1871 Mr. Holes moved to Moorhead, this county, where he later died. Some time after his arrival he bought one hundred and seventy-three acres of land of the only settler who was there at that time, later selling the tract and purchasing other land. He built the first ice house in Moorhead. During the remainder of his active life in Moorhead Mr. Holes dealt extensively in farms and real estate, his speculations in these two fields proving very successful, at the time of his death in 1903 being accounted one of the most prosperous men in the community. During his early days in this part of the county he lived in a tent on the spot where Fargo now stands. He donated liberally to various enterprises in and about Moorhead and was generally regarded as one of the most farseeing citizens in this part of Clay county. Mr. Holes was the first county commissioner and

served as chairman of the board of supervisors and was a member of the board of school trustees. In the business life of Moorhead he was identified with many commercial undertakings, including being a stockholder in the Moorhead National Bank. He was a splendid type of man physically, standing six feet two inches, and as a citizen he helped to build this part of the great Northwest, living to see it developed from a raw state to a well-established section of the commonwealth. He was a man of dependable habits, temperance being a prominent feature of his whole life, and his death in 1903 at the age of sixty-seven was a matter for very general regret throughout the entire county.

Mr. Holes was married to Conie Conant in 1870 at St. Paul. She was born in Warren, Pennsylvania, in 1834. She is still living in Moorhead, her parents and brothers and sisters being all deceased. Mrs. Holes is the owner of considerable property in Moorhead, as well as a quarter section of land in Brown Valley, a quarter section in Breckenbridge, property in Crookston and Ada, this state, farm land in Clay county and property in Alexandria. During the many years of residence in Moorhead Mrs. Holes has taken an active part in the many social and cultural movements that have passed since she settled here in 1870, doing her duty as a citizen and a neighbor with credit and earnestness of purpose, an example to the whole community.

JOHN MALAKOWSKY.

John Malakowsky, a prosperous and energetic farmer of Lockhart township, Norman county, where he cultivates four hundred acres of land, two hundred and forty of which he owns, is a native of Germany, born on February 8, 1863. His parents were both natives of Germany, where the father died when the son, John, was quite young. The mother, feeling that America promised more to her family than her native land, brought her son, the subject of this review, and her two daughters to this country in 1879, her other sons having preceded her to America some years before. The mother brought her family on out to Goodhue county, Minnesota, where they remained for three years, and in 1881 she brought her two daughters on up into Norman county, joining her son, Julius, who had homesteaded in Lockhart township in the year preceding. After some years residence in this county, the mother died.

John Malakowsky did not accompany his mother up into Norman

county, but in the following year, 1882, he followed her here and this county has practically been his home since. Since he was under age when he came up to the Red River country, Mr. Malakowsky could not take a homestead; instead he worked out in northern Minnesota, gathering funds in preparation for the time when he could start farming operations for himself. This he did in 1889 when he began the improvement of the homestead which his mother took for him in his minority by planting a grove and erecting the necessary farm buildings. Since he has been fortunate in his operations, Mr. Malakowsky has been enabled to add to his original quarter section and is now the owner of two hundred forty acres. In addition to farming his own holdings, he rents another quartersection; in all there are four hundred acres on which he carries on general farming.

In 1892, Mr. Malakowsky was united in marriage with Katie Wolf, who was born in Rochester, New York, a daughter of Michael Wolf, who now lives in Ada, this county. To this union ten children have been born, all of whom are living, as follow: Ida, Edward, Helen, Amie, Esther, Raymond, Westley, Ruth, Irene and Harold. Mr. and Mrs. Malakowsky are consistent and conscientious members of the Methodist Episcopal church, the former helping to start the first church of that denomination in the community. Mr. Malakowsky formerly served as chairman of the township board, and is now township treasurer.

ALBERT H. JOHNSON.

The career of Albert H. Johnson, a farmer of Skree township, Clay county, is a splendid example of what many of the thrifty sons of Norway have accomplished in this great western republic, after landing within our borders with little capital and being compelled to start out in a strange environment without assistance from anyone.

Mr. Johnson was born in Norway, August 24, 1871, a son of Hans and Margaret (Polgrud) Johnson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their home, but in the early part of 1872 they immigrated to America, locating at St. Peter, Minnesota, but remained there only a short time, then came on to Becker county, this state, and were pioneer settlers there, taking up a homestead in the early seventies, which they developed into a farm and lived there until they retired

from active life on account of old age, coming to Clay county to make their home with their son, Albert H. Here they spent the rest of their days, dying a number of years ago. Eight children, one of whom died in infancy, unnamed; were born to Hans Johnson and wife, namely: John, deceased; Anna, deceased; Lars, Julia and Tilda are all three living; Albert H., of this sketch, and Sena, deceased.

Albert H. Johnson was a small child when his parents brought him from his native land to America. He grew to manhood on the home farm in Decker county, Minnesota, and there he attended the early-day district schools. He farmed there until about 1890, when he came to Skree township, Clay county, where he has since resided. He owns a valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred acres, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising successfully. His land was a wild prairie when he came here. He has not only erected a splendid group of buildings, fences, etc., but has set out a large grove, which is now of much value.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1903 to Mary Hanson, of Parke township, Clay county, and a daughter of Andrew Lee and wife. To this union two children have been born, namely: Lena and Anna. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Gran Lutheran church.

EVEN N. QUALLEY.

Even N. Qualley, a well-known and well-to-do farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county, former member of the board of supervisors of that township and for years actively interested in the general affairs of the Hendrum neighborhood, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was eight years of age and of Norman county since the year 1881, when he came over here from Wisconsin. He was born on October 9, 1850, son of Nels and Mary (Haverud) Qualley, both of whom also were born in Norway and who came to the United States with their family in 1807 and settled on a farm in Manitowoc county, Wisconsin, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Nels Qualley and wife were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being Berit, Erick (deceased), Nels (deceased), Thomas (deceased), Thora (deceased) and Emma.

As noted above, Even N. Qualley was but eight years of age when his parents came to this country and his schooling, which had been begun in

his native Norway, was completed in the schools of Manitowoc county, Wisconsin. He remained in that county until he was past twenty-one years of age, when, in 1881, he came over into Minnesota and located in Norman county, having been for some time attracted by the possibilities then offering to the industrious settler in this section of the Red River valley. The next year, in 1882, he bought a tract of two hundred and forty acres of school land in section 36 of Hendrum township, as an investment; renting the same to a responsible tenant and working "out" until 1887, when he took charge of the place himself and after his marriage in the following year established his home there and has ever since made that his place of residence, he and his family being very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. Mr. Qualley has a fine grove on his place, has made extensive and substantial improvements on the place and in addition to his general farming gives considerable attention to the raising of Holstein cattle. He has added to his original land holdings by the purchase of an adjoining tract of ninety acres and is now the owner of a fine and well-kept farm of three hundred and thirty acres. Mr. Qualley has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and for some time rendered excellent public service as a member of the board of township supervisors. He also has been active in local business affairs and was one of the organizers of the local creamery company and of the Farmers Elevator Company at Hendrum, in the affairs of both of which thriving concerns he has taken a warm interest.

In 1888, at Perley, Even N. Qualley was united in marriage to Emma Ingberg, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Hans O. and Christine (Olson) Ingberg, both natives of Norway, the former born on March 10, 1844, and the latter, in October, 1839, who came to the United States in 1881 and proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Hendrum township, Norman county. Hans O. Ingberg, who is now living retired at Perley, is the third in order of birth of the six children born to his parents, Ole Hanson and Ingberg Olson, natives of Norway, the former of whom was born in 1810 and the latter, about one year later. She died in her native land in 1872 and in 1880 Ole Hanson came to Minnesota, his last days being spent in the home of his son, P. O. Ingberg, near Hendrum, where his death occurred in 1892. He and his wife were the parents of six children, namely: Agnet, who is married and is living in Norway; Bertha, deceased; Hans O., father of Mrs. Qualley; Olena, who is married and is still living in Norway; Peter, who established a home in the Hendrum neighborhood in Norman county and there spent his last days, his death occurring some years ago, and Julia, deceased. Hans O. Ingberg married on

August 1, 1867, and continued to live in Norway until 1881, when, as noted above, he came to Minnesota with his family and bought eighty acres of land in section 35 of Hendrum township, Norman county, where he established his home and where his wife died in January, 1905. He prospered in his farming operations and became the owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres, which he sold two years ago and since then has been making his home with his daughter at Perley. He helped to organize the creamery company, the elevator company and the telephone company at Hendrum and still holds stock in these concerns. To him and his wife were born eight children, six in Norway and two in this country. Of these children, Mrs. Qualley was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Ole, who is married and living in Canada; Oluf, deceased; Mrs. Lizzie Kirkersether, of Hendrum; Simeon, who is married and living in Chicago; Mrs. Bertha Ellefson, of Hendrum; Oscar, who is married and living at Hendrum, and Mrs. Clara Haaland, of Perley.

To Even N. and Emma (Ingberg) Qualley have been born twelve children, namely: Nora Christina, Martin, Hans (deceased) Helma, Ida, Martha, Olga (deceased), Henry, Chester (deceased), Alvin, Neal and Victor. The Qualleys have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the community's general social activities. They are members of the Lutheran church, Mr. Qualley having been one of the organizers of the Concordia church of that denomination, and take an interested part in the affairs of the church and other local good works, helpful in many ways in promoting the best interests of the community in which they live.

OSCAR M. WESTLIN.

Oscar M. Westlin, cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Flom, treasurer of the Flom Creamery Company, manager of the Flom Implement Company and justice of the peace in and for Flom township, Norman county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm up in Marshall county on December 14, 1889, son of Matt J. and Helen (Windedahl) Westlin, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who are still living in Marshall county, and to whose union four children were born, the subject of this sketch having three brothers, Clarence, Arthur and Roy. Mrs. Westlin has been twice married, her first husband having been Ole Natwick, by whom she was the mother of four children, John, Edward, Tillie and Ida. Upon coming to the United States Matt J. Westlin

first located at LaCrosse, Wisconsin, later coming to this state and becoming a pioneer farmer in Marshall county, where he is still living, one of the substantial residents of that part of the state.

Reared on the home farm in Marshall county, Oscar M. Westlin received his schooling in the public schools and early turned his attention to commercial pursuits. He was married in 1910 and in 1913 became associated with the First National Bank of Twin Valley, with which concern he remained for a year, at the end of which time, in 1914, he was made cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Flom and has since occupied that position, a resident of the thriving village of Flom and one of its most enthusiastic and enterprising "boosters". Mr. Westlin also is the manager of the Flom Implement Company and for the past two years or more has been the treasurer of the Flom Creamery Company. He takes an active and interested part in the civic affairs of the community and for the past year or more has been serving as justice of the peace in and for the township of Flom.

In the year 1910 Oscar M. Westlin was united in marriage to Hannah Hagen, daughter of Erick O. Hagen and wife, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Evelyn. Mr. and Mrs. Westlin are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take a proper part in church work, as well as in other local good works and are helpful in promoting such agencies as are designed to advance the common welfare in their home community. They have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the general social and cultural activities of their home village.

ERICK J. EGGE.

Erick J. Egge, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a compact and well-kept place of one hundred and sixty acres in Skree township, Clay county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-three years old and of Clay county for the past thirty years. He was born in Norway on July 7, 1860, a son of Jorgen and Kari (Olson) Egge, both also natives of Norway and who immigrated to this country some years after their son, Erick J., had settled here. Their first location was near Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, where they lived for a time, later moving to Skree township, Clay county, where Jorgen Egge died while living with his son Erick. Mrs. Carrie Egge died while residing in Rosa county, Minnesota. They

were the parents of the following children: Ingeborg, who lives in South Dakota; Erick J., the immediate subject of this sketch, and Ole, who lives in North Dakota.

Erick J. Egge was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's place, where he helped in the work of the farm. In 1883, at the age of twenty-three, he immigrated to this country, leaving his parents in the old country, and first located in Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, to which place his parents subsequently came. In 1887 Mr. Egge moved to his present place in Skree township, where he has a compact and well-developed farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, on which he has erected some substantial buildings and has laid out an attractive grove, which enhances the value and appearance of the place. Mr. Egge is actively engaged in general farming and is accounted one of the well-to-do and progressive farmers of that part of the county, and is doing very well in his farming operations.

In 1886 Erick J. Egge was united in marriage to Ellena Peterson, the ceremony being performed in Norwegian Grove township, Otter Tail county. Mrs. Egge was born in Norway, a daughter of Peter and Ragnild (Erickson) Iverson, also natives of Norway, in which country they all spent their lives. To Mr. and Mrs. Egge the following children were born: Carolina, John, Inga, Ella, Petra, Annie and Mary (twins) Gena, deceased, Gunvold and Ole, and two others who died in infancy. The Egge family are earnest members of the Lutheran church, which Mr. Egge helped to organize and in the good works of which they take a warm interest, as well as in all good works of the community in which they reside.

CHARLES C. ALLEN.

Charles C. Allen, mayor of the city of Ada and head of the firm of C. C. Allen & Company, one of the most extensive lumber dealers in this part of the state, is a native of the old Green Mountain state and was reared in Michigan, but has been a resident of the great Northwest ever since he was seventeen years of age and is thus thoroughly familiar with conditions here since pioneer days. He was born on May 29, 1863, and was but a child when his parents, Lewis J. and Ellen (Kent) Allen, also natives of Vermont, left that state and went to Michigan, settling at Battle Creek, where he was reared and where he received his schooling in the public schools of that city. As a

boy he spent one year on a farm in Michigan and then, in 1880, he then being seventeen years of age and a strong, husky lad, came up into the Northwest and has ever since been a resident of this part of the country.

Upon coming to the Northwest Charles C. Allen located on a farm in Lamoure county, North Dakota, where he remained for seven years, or until 1887, when he went to Ransom county, that same state, where he was engaged in a lumber yard, thoroughly familiarizing himself with the details of the lumber business, until 1890, when he came over into Minnesota and located at Ada, where he ever since has made his home, for years having been regarded as one of the leading citizens of that city. Upon his arrival at Ada Mr. Allen took employment in a lumber yard there and was thus engaged, perfecting his acquaintance with the lumber business as applied to this region, for five years, or until 1895, when he formed a partnership with J. C. Norby and the two bought the lumber yard and plant in which he had been working, continuing the business under the firm name of C. C. Allen & Company, which firm style has since been maintained. In 1902 Mr. Norby died and in 1909 Mr. Allen bought the interest in the business held by the Norby estate and continued as sole proprietor of the lumber plant until 1915, in which year he admitted to partnership in the business his son, Fred K. Allen, which mutually agreeable arrangement continues. During his many years of connection with the lumber trade at Ada Mr. Allen has created a fine and growing business there, his plant and yards being one of the best-equipped lumber concerns in northwestern Minnesota, handling, in addition to lumber, a general line of builders supplies.

Ever since taking up his residence at Ada Mr. Allen has given his earnest attention to general business and civic affairs and has done well his part as a citizen of that flourishing county seat. Since 1906 he has been secretary and treasurer of the Norman County Telephone Company, for many years has been a director of the Norman County Fair Association and for some time served as president of the latter organization. From 1897 to 1915 he served as a member of the board of education of the city of Ada, part of the time serving as treasurer of the board and later as president of the same, and also has served as city auditor. In 1914 Mr. Allen was elected mayor of Ada and by successive re-elections is still serving in that important executive capacity, giving his earnest attention to local civic affairs, his efforts in his public, as well as in his private, capacity ever being directed toward the advancement of the material and social welfare of the community of which he has been such an active factor for more than a quarter of a century.

On October 29, 1884, while living in North Dakota, Charles C. Allen was united in marriage to Nellie S. Crawford, who was born in Michigan, daughter of S. A. and Ellen J. Crawford, pioneers in the Dakotas, and to this union four children have been born, Charles C., Marguerite, Florence and Fred K., all of whom are living. The Allens have a very pleasant home in Ada and take a proper part in the general social activities of the city. They are members of the Congregational church and for a number of years Mr. Allen has been the chairman of the board of trustees of the local congregation of that church.

HANS LARSON.

Hans Larson, a well-known and prosperous farmer of McDonaldsville township, Norman county, owner of two hundred and seventy-four acres of prime land and former member of the township and school board, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in this country since he was twelve years old, having come with his parents to America in 1863. He was born near Dramen, Norway, in 1851, a son of Lars and Maria (Helgeson) Knutson, also natives of the same country.

Lars Knutson, father of Hans Larson, was educated in the schools of his native land, there grew up and was married, following farming up to the time he immigrated to America in 1863. On his arrival in this country he proceeded on out to Iowa and located near Decorah, Winneshiek county. Later he acquired a parcel of land in Lincoln township, that state, and farmed there for the remainder of his life. Lars Knutson and wife were the parents of the following children: Serena, deceased; Christina, deceased; Knut, deceased; Hans, the subject of this sketch; Marin, deceased, and Larvis, still living on the old home farm in Iowa. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and their family were reared in the same faith.

Hans Larson was educated in the schools of Norway and in 1863 he accompanied his parents to the United States and worked on his father's farm in Iowa, a valuable assistant in the labors of the improving and cultivating the land. When he was twenty-eight years old, in June, 1880, he moved to Ada, this county, the journey being made by horse team and occupied two weeks. He lived in Ada for two years, where he ran a feed barn. He then started farming on his own account and bought land in

Hegne township, this county, where he had a quarter section of excellent land, which he set out to general farming and continued at the same for ten years. At the end of the latter period he moved to his present place in McDonaldsville township, buying a tract of land, and he has continued to reside here ever since, being generally regarded as one of the substantial farmers of the community. His holding contains two hundred and seventy-four acres of prime land, on which he is actively engaged in the production of general crops, conducting his agricultural operations according to modern methods. Mr. Larson has effected many valuable improvements on his property and has erected some fine farm buildings. In addition to his farming operations he also has had for many years an excellent strain of Shorthorn cattle.

In July, 1876, Hans Larson was united in marriage to Helena Peterson, who was born near Christiania, Norway, and came to this country at the age of two years with her parents. The marriage took place in Iowa. They are the parents of the following children: Leonard, Peter, Henry, Maria, Christian, Emma, Selmar and Ella, all of whom are living. The Larson family are members of the Lutheran church, and Mr. Larson and his brother, Knut, were active in organizing the first Lutheran church at Ada. Hans Larson has ever given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and served in many township offices. He served on the township board in both Hegne and McDonaldsville townships and on the school board when living in Hegne township, and he is recognized as one of the progressive men of the community in which he lives.

PETER SHEETS, JR.

Peter Sheets, a well-known extensive landowner in Norman county, owner of nine hundred and sixty acres of land, is a native of the state of Ohio, born in Delaware county, that state, August 17, 1862, a son of Peter and Mary Ann (Russell) Sheets, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. They moved to the state of Illinois and there Peter Sheets died and his wife died in Iowa. He operated a flour-mill in Ohio for some years. Ancestors of Peter Sheets fought in the War of the Revolution and were of German descent, while Peter Sheets' wife, Mary Ann Russell, was of English descent, and the ancestors on both sides were early settlers in

this country in Colonial days. Peter and Mary Ann Sheets were the parents of four children, Frank, Carrie, James and Peter.

Peter Sheets, Jr., received part of his education in Illinois and completed the same in Iowa, to which state he went with his mother when he was ten years old, settling in Franklin county, that state. Mr. Sheets lived in Iowa until 1898, the last seven and one-half years being spent in Hancock county, the entire earlier part in Franklin county, and he was actively engaged in farming in both places. In 1899 he moved to Ada, Norman county, and for the greater part of the time since he has lived on a farm in Spring Creek township, where he is now extensively engaged in general farming and raising full-blood Galloway cattle, for the latter finding a ready market at all times. He is now the owner of nine hundred and sixty acres of as fine land as may be found in the county, eight hundred and eighty of which is located in Spring Creek township. When Mr. Sheets took the land it was in a raw state and he immediately set out to improve and develop it, in a short time having a large portion planted to crops, his agricultural operations proving a profitable investment. For the past four years his family has been living in Ada for the convenience of having the children educated, but Mr. Sheets spends most of his time on the farm, especially in the summer months.

On October 14, 1891, Peter Sheets was united in marriage to Hattie Starks, born in New York state, a daughter of Palemon Starks and wife, and to this union the following children have been born: Russell, Nellie, Fred, Harold and Vera, all of whom are still living. Mr. Sheets has always given close attention to civic affairs and has served as supervisor of Spring Creek township, and in other ways he has been interested in promoting all movements designed to promote the general welfare of the community.

BENNIE BAKKE.

Bennie Bakke, cashier and managing officer of the Security State Bank of Twin Valley, is a native son of Norman county and has lived there all his life with the exception of a year or two spent as clerk in a bank at Mahanomen, over in the neighboring county of that name. He was born on a pioneer farm in Wild Rice township, Norman county, October 26, 1887, son of Ole E. and Cecelie (Braaten) Bakke, the former of whom was born in Fillmore county, this state, and the latter, over the line in the neighboring

county of Winneshiek, in the state of Iowa, and both of whom are still living, honored residents of the Twin Valley neighborhood, where they have made their home since pioneer days.

Ole E. Bakke was reared on a pioneer farm in Fillmore county, this state, and there received his schooling, remaining there until he was about sixteen years of age, when he started out on his own account and began working on the construction of the line of the Northern Pacific railroad through Montana. After some preliminary pioneering with a view to settling on a farm in a newly-developed section, he decided to settle in the Red River valley and about 1880 located in Norman county, where he ever since has made his home, still residing on the quarter-section tract he bought in section 34 of Wild Rice township upon locating here. Long ago he added an adjoining eighty to that tract and now has a very well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of two hundred and forty acres, where he and his family are very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Bakke has given considerable attention to the extension of the dairy interests of this part of the state and has done very well in his operations. He has ever taken an active interest in the general civic affairs of his home township and has given considerable of his time and energies to the public service, having served as treasurer of the township and for about ten years as president of the local school board, of which for the past three years or more he has been the treasurer. He and his wife are earnest members of the Synod Lutheran church, the local congregation of which he has served as a member of the board of trustees, and their children have been reared in that faith. There are eight of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the second in order of birth, the others being Edwin, Lottie, Ida, Norman, Clifford, Orvald and Edva.

Bennie Bakke was reared on the home farm in Wild Rice township and received his schooling in the Twin Valley schools. When seventeen years of age, in 1905, he became engaged as a clerk in the Security State Bank at Mahnomen, over in the neighboring county of that name, and was thus engaged at that place until January 1, 1907, when he became engaged as bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Twin Valley. Four years later he was made assistant cashier of that bank and remained thus engaged until January 1, 1914. In March of that year he became one of the organizers of the Security State Bank of Twin Valley and was installed as cashier and managing officer of the same, which responsible position he still occupies, long having been recognized as one of the most energetic and enterprising young bankers in this part of the state.

In 1910 Bennie Bakke was united in marriage to Hilda Hagen, daughter of G. J. Hagen, of Detroit, this state, and to this union has been born one child, a daughter, Donna. Mr. and Mrs. Bakke are members of the Synod Lutheran church and take a proper interest in local church work, as well as in the general good works of the community in which they live, helpful in promoting all agencies having to do with the advancement of the common welfare.

JOHN J. ARENDS.

John J. Arends, one of the well-to-do and progressive farmers of Mary township, this county, owner of a quarter section of prime land, present town clerk and member of the school board, is a native of the state of Illinois, born in Chicago on November 15, 1873, a son of Nicolas and Alice (Klason) Arends, natives of Holland. These parents came to the United States in 1866 and lived in the city of Chicago for ten years, at the end of which period they moved to Will county, Illinois, where Nicolas Arends farmed and where his son, the subject of this sketch, was reared. To Nicolas and Alice (Klason) Arends the following children were born: Bernard, John J., William, Nicolas and Henry, all of whom are living and with the exception of John J., who lives in Norman county, are engaged in farming in Ottawa county, Michigan.

John J. Arends was educated in the schools of Will county, Illinois, and was reared on his father's farm, where he became a valuable aid in the labors of developing and improving the home place. In 1902, three years after his marriage, he moved to Norman county and has lived here ever since, having been in occupation of three different farms in the vicinity of his present place. He is the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 10, Mary township, but rents the place on which he has been living for the past eleven years. He has put up some excellent buildings on his place, including a granary and machine shed, and is generally recognized as one of the progressive and up-to-date farmers of the district in which he resides. He has purchased a tractor for the better accomplishment of his agricultural work, which includes crops of a general character, potatoes and corn being among the products.

On May 15, 1899, at Kankakee county, Illinois, John J. Arends was united in marriage to Mary Schmitt, a native of Germany. To this union the following children have been born: George, Alice, Nicolas, Christina.

Eva, Agnes, John, Mary and Rose, all of whom are living with their parents on the farm. Mr. Arends takes a warm interest in township and general community affairs and is now serving as township clerk and is also a member of the township school board, his interest in educational matters being recognized throughout the township, and in other ways he has contributed of his time and energy in various directions tending to the public good.

JACOB LERUD.

Jacob Lerud, another of the substantial farmers of Home Lake township, is a native of the Kingdom of Norway, who came to America in search of fortune and found it. He was born in 1864 in that country and at the age of nineteen years immigrated to the United States, going on arrival to Lansing, Iowa, near which place he worked on farms for about six or seven months. He then came to Ada and worked for his brother Anton during the winter and in the spring on farms in North Dakota. The next winter he attended school in Ada, the following summer again finding employment at farm work in North Dakota, returning the next winter to Ada and resuming school work. In another part of this volume is published an extended account of Anton Lerud, brother of the subject of this sketch, the notice appearing under the caption of Emil Lerud.

Jacob Lerud commenced farming operations on his own account by the purchase from Austin Hanson in 1887, of eighty acres in section 8, Home Lake township, later adding forty acres in section 7, same township, and still later another forty in the same section—the total being one hundred and sixty acres in the foregoing sections and a further forty acres in section 20. Mr. Lerud has carried out some valuable improvements on his different holdings, including the setting out of groves and fences. For the first years of the farm life he used oxen in the work. He is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, the oxen have long since been discarded and all his operations are conducted according to modern methods.

In 1885 Jacob Lerud was united in marriage to Johanna Monson, a native of Norway, born in 1867, who at the age of nineteen years came to America with two sisters. Her parents are deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Lerud the following children have been born: Carl, Helmer and Alfred, owning two hundred and eleven acres of land in sections 5 and 6, north of their father's place; Alma, who keeps house for these brothers; Albert,

Julia, Clara, Alvin and Emil, all at home, and Clara, deceased. Mr. Lerud is a member of the Synod church and served as trustee to the congregation for some time. He has always taken an active and intelligent part in the affairs of the township and served on the township board and also on the school board, bringing to the duties of these offices a ripe intelligence. He acted as assessor for five or six years. He helped to organize the local creamery and is a stockholder in the same with a seat on the board of directors. He also is a stockholder in the Farmers Telephone Company of Ada, and in many other directions has given of his time and energy to projects calculated to serve the best interests of the community in which he resides.

THOMAS T. NATWICK.

Thomas T. Natwick, a substantial farmer of Wild Rice township and member of the board of commissioners of Norman county, was born in Norway on February 20, 1863, the son of Thomas George and Christina (Offerdahl) Natwick, both natives of Norway who emigrated to America with their son, Thomas T., in 1878, proceeding directly to Iowa, where they settled in Shelby county, farming there for four years. While residents there, Thomas T. Natwick supplemented the education he had received in Norway by attending the schools in Iowa.

In the spring of 1882 the family pushed northward into Minnesota, and arrived at their destination, the town of Ada, in Norman county, on the 9th of March. The family settled at once in Wild Rice township, where the subject of this review still lives, his parents having lived with him until their deaths. The title to the tract of land whereon Thomas T. Natwick settled, which contained about one hundred and fifty acres, was at first disputed, but eventually he won out in the controversy and now for years has had undisputed possession, improving the land by the erection of fine farm buildings and by planting groves. By tireless industry and good management Mr. Natwick has been enabled to extend his holdings by the acquisition of eighty acres of land, thus he is now the owner of two hundred and thirty acres, whereon he raises grain and stock, specializing in Shorthorn cattle.

On December 5, 1895, Thomas T. Natwick married Beatte Hagen, who was born in Norway on September 30, 1875, the daughter of Hans and Serena (Peterson) Hagen; and to this union six children have been born.

namely: Hilda, Theresa, Arthur, Edwin, Clarence and Theodore, all of whom are living. Mr. Natwick and his family are devoted members of the Lutheran church, he and his father having helped to organize the North Wild Rice Lutheran church, of which congregation Mr. Natwick and his family are now members.

Mr. Natwick has not limited himself to his agricultural interests, for he is also active in local civic affairs, since he is now serving his first term as county commissioner and has been a member of the township board for fourteen years, most of which time he has been chairman of the board. In addition to his civic and farming interests, he has been active in business, for he helped to organize the Gary and the Wild Rice Telephone companies and has been a director in the latter since its organization.

OLE M. UNDELAND.

One of the enterprising and successful young farmers of Norwegian birth in Lake Ida township, Norman county, is Ole M. Undeland, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and sixty acres, well improved with good and substantial buildings, presenting the appearance of the home of a scientific and up-to-date farmer. Mr. Undeland was born in Norway, the son of Martin O. and Gertie (Olson) Undeland, both of whom were also natives of Norway, who came with their family to America in 1880. After arriving in this country they spent one year in Wisconsin and then decided to move to Minnesota. The father drove over with a team to Norman county, the family following by train. Here the father homesteaded a farm of one hundred and ten acres in section 24, Lake Ida township, and on this farm the family lived for seventeen or eighteen years, at the end of which time Martin Undeland retired from active farm labor and moved with his wife to a timber lot which he had purchased in the same township, and on which he built a house, and here he lived the rest of his life. His widow is still living, now making her home with a daughter in Wild Rice township.

Martin O. Undeland was one of the pioneers of this part of Norman county and took an active part in the community life of the early days. He helped organize the West Wild Rice Lutheran church and was one of its prominent and active members while he lived. He and his wife were the parents of seven children: Ole Martinson, Martha Burg, Ole M., Carrie Anderson, Inga Johnson, Anna Hådal and Andrew M. Undeland.

Ole M. Undeland received his education in the schools of his native land and came with his parents to America in 1880. He remained on the farm with his father until about 1890, when he began life for himself by working as a farm hand on the neighboring farms in Norman county, which he continued for several years, with the exception of one year, which he spent in North Dakota. He then rented a farm in section 15, Lake Ida township, where he lived for four years, after which he lived for two years on a rented farm in the northeastern part of McDonaldsville township. He then purchased the farm of two hundred and sixty acres where he is now living, and here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and that he has met with success in his chosen calling is attested by the fact that he has made most of the improvements on his well-kept farm, and has erected all of the excellent buildings on the place.

In March, 1916, Mr. Undeland was married to Mary Skaurud, the daughter of Fred Skaurud and wife. Mrs. Undeland is a native of Norman county, her parents living on a farm in Lake Ida township. Both Mr. and Mrs. Undeland are earnest members of the Lutheran church, and take an active part in the social and religious life of their community. Mr. Undeland has served his township for the past nine years as township treasurer, and no one in his community stands higher in the esteem and respect of his neighbors than he.

HENRY O. HERMANSON.

Henry O. Hermanson, the proprietor of a well-improved farm of two hundred and forty acres which he has operated very successfully for many years in Waukon township, Norman county, a man whose public interest reaches out farther than the immediate present, believing that one of the best investments a community can make is by expending money for education, was born in Houston county, Minnesota, December 6, 1869, a son of Ole and Bertha (Tangen) Hermanson, both natives of Norway, who came to America several years before the Civil War and settled in Houston county, Minnesota, pioneers of that county. He took government land there, a tract of one hundred and sixty acres, whereon he and his wife spent the rest of their days. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Nels, now in Norway; Anna, Mary, deceased; Julia, Arne, deceased; Halvor, deceased, and Henry. The father and mother were devout members of the Lutheran church, and in the early days they were largely instrumental in sowing the seeds of Christianity in the new county of Houston.

In those early days, the schools of Houston county were quite rude and the elementary education that Henry O. Hermanson received there was limited, a fact which probably causes him to champion every sensible expenditure which is made in the community in the interests of the public schools. After he reached manhood, he and his brother, Halvor O. Hermanson, purchased the general merchandise business of C. F. Peterson at Rindahl, Norman county, but after they had operated the enterprise for about five years, they sold it to their brother, Arne. Then Henry O. Hermanson invested his money in farm land, two hundred and forty acres in sections 8 and 5, Waukon township. Here he has industriously improved his holding, perfecting his farm plant until it is now comprised of excellent and capacious farm buildings and a fine grove, most of which he planted. His agricultural operations are chiefly along the line of general farming.

Mr. Hermanson was married on March 14, 1896, to Anna Sundeth, who was born in Houston township, June 13, 1872, a daughter of Cristand and Isabelle (Ellingson) Sundeth, and to this union eight children have been born as follow: Clarence, Benora, Cora, Arnold, Grant, Sadie, Viola and Bernice, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Hermanson are sincere and consistent members of the United Lutheran church at Ness, and they are rearing their children according to this faith. Mr. Hermanson has never sought after public office, but takes a good citizen's interest in the local, state and national phases of his affairs. His community interests are very strong and he supports ardently any movement which has for its purpose the social and moral betterment of the community in which he lives. He helped to organize the creamery at Waukon and also the Waukon Mercantile Company, in the latter of which he is still interested.

INGVALD H. AAMOTH.

Ingvald H. Aamoth, manager of the well-established horse market at Twin Valley and one of the best-known horsemen and breeders in this part of Minnesota, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was six years of age and of Norman county since 1874, he having been but a child when his parents settled in this part of Montana, among the very first settlers of the Fossum neighborhood. He was born at Guldbrand Dahl, Norway, June 16, 1867, son of Hans and Karen (Peterson) Aamoth, also natives of that county, who came to the

United States with their families in 1873 and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, a year later coming on over to this part of Minnesota and settling in what later came to be organized as Norman county, where they spent the remainder of their lives, substantial and useful pioneers.

It was in 1874 that Hans Aamoth drove over from Rock county, Wisconsin, with his family up into the Red River valley, the journey consuming about six weeks. Upon his arrival here he bought a tract of railroad land in what is now Fossum township, Norman county, and there established his home, one of the very earliest settlers in that part of the country. That was before Ada had a place on the map and settlers hereabout were few and far between. It was not long until he had his place under improvement and as the years passed and he prospered in his pioneer undertakings he added to his holdings until he came to be recognized as one of the most substantial residents of the Fossum neighborhood. He and his wife spent their last days on that pioneer farm. They were members of the United Lutheran church and were among the organizers of the Fossum congregation of that communion, ever taking an earnest interest in church work and in other neighborhood good works. They were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the last-born, the others being Agnete Peter, Lars, Hans, Olena and Nels.

As noted above, I. H. Aamoth was but a lad when he came up into the then practically unsettled valley of the Red River with his parents and he grew to manhood on the pioneer farm in the Fossum neighborhood, receiving his schooling in the local schools and from the days of his boyhood was a valued help in the labors of developing and improving the home place. Upon reaching his majority he began farming on his own account and was thus engaged for about three years, or until 1890, when he became engaged in the livery-stable business at Twin Valley, continuing thus engaged at that place until he sold his stable in 1910, in the meantime developing an extensive business as a dealer in horses, which he continued after selling his livery stable and in 1914 erected his present well-equipped sales barn at Twin Valley. He also conducts a breeding stable, making a specialty of pure-bred Percherons, and the products of his stables are in wide demand. Mr. Aamoth is the owner of two-thirds of the stock of the Twin Valley horse market and is the general manager of the same, doing an extensive business in the buying and selling of horses, the Twin Valley market covering a wide territory throughout Norman and adjoining counties.

In the year 1899 I. H. Aamoth was united in marriage to Mina Christianson, daughter of Ole Christianson and wife, and to this union five chil-

dren have been born, Selmar, Clifford, Cora, Alta and Ila. The Aamoths have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and take an interested part in the general social activities of the community. They are earnest members of the United Lutheran church.

E. N. BJERKE.

E. N. Bjerke, a well-known and prosperous retired farmer, now living in the pleasant village of Twin Valley, Norman county, is a native son of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was seven years old. He was born on October 1, 1856, a son of Nels and Chestin Bjerke, also Norwegians, who came to this country in 1863.

When Nels Bjerke arrived in this country he proceeded out to the state of Minnesota and settled near Spring Grove, Houston county, in which place he resided for three years engaged in farming. At the end of that period he moved to Fillmore county, this state, and located near Spring Valley, where he lived for ten years, following his occupation as a farmer. His next move was to Mower county, also in Minnesota, and there he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. In all his movements from one to the other of these places, he carried out the journey with the assistance of an ox-team—a mode of conveyance practically unknown to the present generation. Nels Bjerke was a skilled farmer and conducted his agricultural operations with advantage and profit. To Mr. Bjerke and wife the following children were born: Helena, Johanah, Christina, Petro, Caroline, Clara, Lars, Nels and E. N., the subject of this sketch. They were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

E. N. Bjerke was seven years old when he accompanied his parents to this country and he was educated in the schools of Fillmore county, later helping his father in the labors of the farm. He moved with his parents to Mower county and in that county started farming on his own account, remaining thus engaged for three years. In 1882 he moved via ox-team to Hagen township, Clay county, and took one hundred and sixty acres of homestead land and immediately commenced to get it into a state of cultivation, continuing to operate the holding for fourteen years. He carried out many substantial improvements and had one of the best-kept and most profitable farms in the part of the township in which he lived. Mr. Bjerke then bought another place nearby, known as the old Dudray place, which also contained a quarter section of land, on which he lived as a general

farmer until the fall of 1908. His next move was to another quarter section in Wild Rice township, Norman county, and he continued his farming operations in that township until he retired from the active labors of the farm in the fall of 1914. He bought a fine home near the edge of Twin Valley, just outside the village limits, and there he is pleasantly situated. During his active career as a farmer Mr. Bjerke was recognized as a progressive agriculturist, who carried on his operations according to modern methods.

On March 15, 1878, E. N. Bjerke was united in marriage to Sophia Johnson, a native of the state of Wisconsin. To this union the following children have been born: Nora, Albert, Edwin, Helmer, Inga, Oscar, Malvin, Clarence, Selma and Hardean, all of whom are living. The Bjerke family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works, as well as in the welfare of the community at large. Mr. Bjerke has always given a good deal of time and attention to public affairs, served as chairman of the township board for some time, was also clerk of the school board in Hagen township, and in other ways had demonstrated his earnestness in the public interest.

OLE S. BENTLEY.

Ole S. Bentley, one of the oldest farmers now active in Wild Rice township, Norman county, owner of two hundred acres of prime land, known as "Riverside Farm", first assessor of Fossum township and for several years having held an appointment as justice of the peace, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in that country on February 2, 1850, a son of Ole B. and Mary (Olsen) Olsen, both natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1858. They settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where Ole B. Olsen bought a tract of government land, for which he paid one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre and on that farm he lived for the remainder of his life. Ole and Mary Olsen were the parents of eight children.

Ole S. Bentley, at the age of eight years, accompanied his parents to America and went with them to Winneshiek county, Iowa, in the schools of which county he was educated and reared on his father's farm. He worked as a clerk in Decorah, that county, and in Worth county was a clerk and deputy postmaster in the town of Northwood. In the spring of 1879 he paid a visit to Norman county and looked it over for the purpose of selecting a place to settle on. In the fall of that same year he came to

Fossum township and homesteaded a quarter section of land located in section 30 and on that farm continued to live until 1896, engaged in general farming. In the latter year he moved across the township line into section 25 of Wild Rice township and settled on his present place, where he has continued to reside ever since. He is now the owner of two hundred acres of prime land known as "Riverside Farm", and here he carries on general farming and also breeds graded Shorthorn cattle, of which he keeps some choice specimens. From the commencement of his agricultural operations Mr. Bentley has had a considerable share of success and is recognized as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of that part of Norman county.

On March 26, 1871, Ole S. Bentley was united in marriage at Decorah, Iowa, to Anna Bergeta Bergeson, who was born in Norway in 1854, a daughter of Soren Bergeson and wife, who settled in Wild Rice township on June 3, 1871, being generally regarded as the first to settle in that part of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Bentley are the parents of eleven children as follow: Clarence O., Minnie S., Anna O., Helmer N., Julia R., Sidney O., Henry C., Sophia B., Olga, T. Melvin and Laura Selina. The Bentley family are members of East Wild Rice Lutheran church and are warm supporters of the same. Mr. Bentley has the distinction of having been the first assessor of the present Fossum township, having been appointed by the auditor of Polk county when this place was a part of Polk county. He held the office for twelve years, the consecutive order of tenure being broken only for one year, and he served as justice of the peace for eight years. Mr. Bentley was one of the most active of those engaged in the organization of school district No. 41, which takes in part of four townships, the building being located in the southeast corner of Wild Rice township. He was the first clerk of the local school board, serving in that capacity for the long period of twenty-four consecutive years. He takes an active and practical interest in all local affairs.

OLE E. BAKKE.

Ole E. Bakke, an enterprising and energetic farmer, living in Wild Rice township, Norman county, a member of district school board No. 77, in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in the United States since he was six years old. He was born in that country on February 26, 1861, a son of Andrew and Breta Bakke, both of whom were also natives of Norway.

Andrew and Breta Bakke were married in their native land prior to immigrating to this country, to which they came in 1867, and proceeded to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they resided for two years, and where Andrew Bakke worked on a farm. They then moved to Fillmore county, this state, and in that place Mrs. Bakke died. In 1883 Mr. Bakke moved to Twin Valley, Norman county, and here he spent the rest of his life living retired, spending the remainder of his life with his children. During his residence in Fillmore county he worked out and throughout his entire life in this county was regarded as a citizen of industrious habits and progressive ideas. Andrew and Breta Bakke were the parents of seven children as follow: Olena, who died in Norway; Andrew; Breta, who died in Fillmore county; Carrie; Peter; Gertie, and Ole E., the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Bakke were earnest members of the Lutheran church and reared their children in the tenets of that faith.

Ole E. Bakke, at the age of six years, accompanied his parents to this country and on coming to the state of Minnesota, was educated in the schools of Fillmore county. In 1881 he went to Montana and worked in that state for eighteen months engaged in the construction of the Northern Pacific railroad when it was being put through that place. In the fall of 1882 he moved to Ada, Minnesota, and immediately purchased a homestead right to the southwest quarter of section 34, Wild Rice township, and in the following spring he moved to this holding and has since been living on that place, engaged in general farming and from the commencement of his agricultural operations he has been very successful. He erected several substantial buildings on the homestead, which had no building of any kind on it except a house constructed of logs, at the time Mr. Bakke acquired it. In addition to the erection of the buildings, he also has set out a fine grove of trees, which add considerably to the value and appearance of the place. Since taking possession of the original homestead tract, he has bought a further eighty acres in the same section, the whole being given over to general farming, and Mr. Bakke is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of that part of the township.

On December 12, 1884, Ole E. Bakke was united in marriage to Cecila Syverson, a native of Norway and daughter of Syvert Syverson and wife. To this union the following children have been born: Edwin, Bennie, Lottie, Ida, Norma, Clifford, Orval and Edva, all of whom are living. The Bakke family are members of the Lutheran church and are earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in all neighborhood good works. Mr. Bakke helped to organize the first church in Twin Valley, now known as

the Twin Valley Synod. During his active lifetime he has given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and was a member of the township board for several years in Wild Rice township. He helped to organize school district No. 77 in 1903, when the community became an independent district, and he has been a member of the school board ever since. Mr. Bakke helped to organize the Farmers Co-operative Creamery of Twin Valley and is still interested in that undertaking, and in many other ways he has given evidence of his ability to assist all projects designed to forward the material interests of the community.

CHRISTIAN BREDEMEIER.

Christian Bredemeier, a substantial farmer of Humboldt township, this county, was born in the state of Illinois, but has been a resident of this county since he was twenty-three years of age. He was born in 1857, a son of William B. and Sophia Bredemeier, both of whom were natives of Germany, but who came to this country in an early day.

William B. Bredemeier was born in Germany in 1825 and was educated in the schools of that country, subsequently following the life of a farmer. He immigrated to America in 1845, at the age of twenty, and commenced to work on farms in Illinois and later became the owner of a tract of land, which he too continued to operate for the remainder of his active life, his death occurring in 1893 at the age of sixty-eight. His wife, Sophia Bredemeier was also a native of Germany, born in that country in 1826, and when twenty years of age, in 1846, came to America and in the following year, 1847, met and married Christian Bredemeier at Chicago. They were the parents of the following children: William, John, Fred, Herman, Christian, Mary, Sophia, Louisa, Emma and Amelia. The mother of these children is still living in Cleveland, Ohio. William Bredemeier and his wife were active and influential residents of the district in which they made their home and were warm supporters of all good causes tending to the welfare of the community.

Christian Bredemeier was educated in the schools of Illinois and was reared on his father's farm where he was a valuable assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place. In 1880 he moved from Illinois to Clay county and in May of the same year he bought a holding containing two hundred and forty acres of choice land, located in section 16, Humboldt township, fifty acres of which he gives over to the cultivation

of potatoes. He carries on general farming and since the commencement of his operations he has been successful, everything about his farm being in excellent condition. Since acquiring this holding Mr. Bredemeier has been to considerable expense in carrying out substantial improvements, and his place is ranked among the best in the township. He is also the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of fine land in Wilkin county.

In 1884 Christian Bredemeier was united in marriage to Marion Fankhanel, who was born in Germany in 1864 and came to America in 1882. To this union the following children were born Cecelia, who is married; William, married; Alfred, a farmer, also clerk of district school board No. 31; Thelma, married; Lilly, Martha and Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Bredemeier take a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the neighborhood and township.

BORRE HOVEN.

Borre Hoven, a substantial and energetic farmer and breeder of high-grade stock, owner of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land in Winchester township, Norman county, chairman of the local school board and otherwise identified with the public life of the township, is a native of Gudbrandsdalen, Norway, born in 1857, but has been a resident of this country for thirty-five years, having immigrated in 1882. He is a son of John and Mary Hoven, also born in Norway, the former a farmer, and both of whom are deceased, Borre Hoven being deprived of his mother when he was but eighteen months old.

In 1882, Borre Hoven, who had been married in the previous year, came to this country with his wife and proceeded to the state of Minnesota, locating at Crookston, where he remained for six months. He then homesteaded a quarter section of land in section 10, Winchester township, and later bought another quarter section in section 9, same township, and here he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and since the commencement of his agricultural operations he has been uniformly successful. Mr. Hoven has effected many substantial improvements on his holdings and his farm buildings are well built, his fences being one of the well-kept features of the place, and his farming operations are carried on along modern lines.

In 1881, before leaving Norway, Borre Hoven was united in marriage to Anna Wange, also a native of Norway, born in 1863. They are parents of the following children: Ole, married, in Montana; Mary, married, living in North Dakota; Bennie, in Montana; Gilbert, who works on the home farm; Alfred, married, living in Montana; Sylvester, also in Montana; Gena, a school teacher; Otto, farming at home; Anna, a school teacher, and Tena, Edwin, Ella and Olga, all living at home. The Hoven family are members of the United church and earnestly interested in all its good works, Mr. Hoven being a trustee of the church and has served the congregation in other capacities. He helped to build one church.

Mr. Hoven gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and for years has been identified with the progress of education in the township and neighborhood and has helped to build two of the district schools and has served on the school board in various capacities. He has also served on the township board and helped to organize the Lake Ida Telephone Company, of which he is a stockholder, and in other ways he has given his active support to all movements designed to serve the public good.

LARS BJORNSON.

Lars Bjornson, local manager at Twin Valley for the Wilcox Lumber Company, treasurer of the local creamery company, former treasurer and councilman of the village, former newspaper editor and merchant there and for years one of the most energetic "boosters" of the affairs of that thriving village, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country and of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age. He is a Telemarking, born in the parish of Saude on July 20, 1869, son of Bjorn and Ingeborg (Olson) Johnson, farmers and natives of that same place, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being John, Kjersti, John (second), Aasta and Ingeborg. The parents were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and the children were reared in that faith.

Reared on the home farm, Lars Bjornson received his schooling in the village schools and remained at home until he was nineteen years of age, when he came to this country, in 1890, and proceeded on out to Minnesota,

the village of Twin Valley being his point of destination. Upon his arrival here he secured employment as a farm laborer in the summer and attended school in the winter, and for three years thereafter was thus engaged. He then, in 1893, began clerking in a general store at Twin Valley and was so engaged for about six years, at the end of which time he began the publication of the *Twin Valley Times*, continuing in the newspaper business for two years and six months, at the end of which period he sold the *Times* and entered the service of the McCormick Harvester Company, with local headquarters at Grand Forks, and a year later, in the spring of 1902, transferred his services to the Wilcox Lumber Company and was made local manager of that company's office and plant at Twin Valley, a position he ever since has occupied, one of the best-known lumber men in Norman county. For about eleven years Mr. Bjornson also served as secretary of the local creamery company and is the present treasurer of that company. He likewise has for years taken an active and intelligent interest in local civic affairs, has served as a member of the village council, for two years as treasurer of the village and for the past thirteen years or more has been clerk of the local school district.

In the year 1896 Lars Bjornson was united in marriage to Gena Herreid, daughter of P. O. Herreid and wife, and to this union five children have been born, Inez, Bert, Gladys, Josephine and Louis. The Bjornsons have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and have ever taken an interested part in the general social affairs of the community. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other local good works.

JACOB N. ERSTAD.

Jacob N. Erstad, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of two hundred and ten acres of prime land in Sundahl township, Norman county, has been a resident of this part of Minnesota for a long period, but is a native of the kingdom of Norway. He was born in that country on January 2, 1843, a son of Nels and Renog (Severson) Erstad, also natives of Norway and who came to America in an early day and spent the remainder of their lives in Norman county, dying on the farm of their son, Anton. Nels Erstad was a farmer and trained his son in the labors of the farm, imparting to him the true principles of good husbandry. Nels Erstad and

wife were the parents of the following children: John, Randi, Anton, Martinus, Sivert, Guro and Jacob N., the subject of this sketch. All these children are living here except Randi, who lives in Norway, and Guro is deceased.

Jacob N. Erstad took up his residence on a homestead farm in Sundahl township upon coming to Norman county and immediately set to work to get the place into a state fit for the planting of crops. He succeeded in his operations and is now the owner of a fine tract of two hundred and ten acres of land, ten acres of which is in timber, and is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, being recognized throughout the neighborhood as one of the practical and painstaking farmers of the district.

When Mr. Erstad acquired possession of this holding he commenced his farming operations with a pair of oxen for which he paid one hundred and thirty dollars and lived for some time in a log cabin. Later he erected a good dwelling and some substantial outbuildings and he and his family are comfortably and pleasantly situated. At the age of thirty years, in 1873, Mr. Erstad was united in marriage to Cecelie Anderson, who came to this country at the same time as her husband, and since his marriage he has continued to reside on the original homestead farm. They are the parents of one child, a daughter, Randena, who is married and lives on a farm in this county. Mr. Erstad takes a good citizen's interest in all matters appertaining to the welfare of the community in which he resides. He is a stockholder in the creamery at Sundahl, Minnesota, and also has an interest in the elevator.

ADOLPH J. FRIDLUND.

Adolph J. Fridlund, a well-known building contractor and architect of Moorhead, former member of the city council and now a member of the charter commission of that city, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of Minnesota for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he has done much to help build up the city of Moorhead, of which he has been a resident since the year 1891. He was born on April 23, 1864, son of John M. and Johanna (Carlson) Fridlund, also natives of Sweden, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of nine children, those besides the subject of this sketch, the sixth in order of birth, being as follow: Ingre Marie, deceased; Carolina, who continues to make her home in her native land; John, who came to Minnesota and is now living at Hawley; Otto, who also came to the Red River Valley

and is now living at Fargo; Albertina, deceased; Ida, who continues to make her home in Sweden; Elof, a well-known resident of Moorhead, and John Edward, who remained in his native land and is still living there. John M. Fridlund and wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

John M. Fridlund was a carpenter and his sons were trained to that trade. It was in 1891 that Adolph J. Fridlund came to this country after having worked for some years as a carpenter in his native land, and after a brief stay in Michigan, to which state he had gone after arriving in port, came on up into this part of Minnesota, arriving at Moorhead on June 2 of that year and has ever since made his home in that city. Immediately after his arrival in Moorhead Mr. Fridlund began working at his trade, having been engaged by a contractor across the river in Fargo and later worked for other builders, meanwhile spending some time at the high school and in attendance at the Hope Academy in Moorhead putting a polish on his then somewhat limited knowledge of the English language. At the same time he continued his study of mechanical drawing and architecture and presently became quite proficient in these lines. After a while he and his brothers, Otto and Elof, formed a partnership, under the firm name of Fridlund Brothers and engaged in general building contracting on their own account, that connection continuing for seven years, at the end of which time Elof Fridlund withdrew from the firm. Three years later Otto Fridlund withdrew and since then Adolph J. Fridlund has continued the business alone, one of the best-known and most successful building contractors in Moorhead. The first public building erected by him, then in partnership with his brothers, was the second ward school building at Moorhead and since that time he has done a large amount of work on public buildings as well as on many of the other distinctive buildings in and about Moorhead. Ever since becoming established at Moorhead Mr. Fridlund has taken an active interest in the general affairs of the city, has served as a member of the city council, alderman from his ward; as a member of the board of education, and is now a member of the city charter commission; a director of Clay county Building Association for five years and a director of the Fargo Builders and Traders Exchange seven years.

On November 14, 1897, Adolph J. Fridlund was united in marriage to Nellie Sater, daughter of Amund Sater, of Carlisle, in the neighboring county of Otter Tail, and to this union eleven children have been born, Albert Julian, Anna Jeannette, Esther Florence (deceased), Ethel Florence, Victor Ferdinand, Adolph Harold, Evelyn Mildren, Carroll Reuben and Carl Rudolph

(twins), Marian Bernice and Dorothy Vivian, born in July, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Fridlund are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they and their family take a proper interest in church work. Mr. Fridlund takes an active interest in lodge work and is a member of the local lodges of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of the Knights of Pythias, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, of the Mutual Benefit Association, of the Royal Arcanum, the Order of Yeomen, and the Modern Brotherhood of America.

ALFRED ANDERSON.

Alfred Anderson, one of the real pioneers of the village of Twin Valley, for years a merchant there, former recorder of the village, formerly and for many years postmaster and now assistant to Postmaster Meighen, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age and of Norman county since 1884, thus very properly being regarded as one of the old settlers hereabout. He was born at Toten on August 22, 1860, son of Christian and Marie (Paulson) Anderson, the former a steamboat engineer, who spent all their lives in their native Norway and who were the parents of eight children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Helen, Carl, Annie, Nettie, Christian, Anton and Johannes.

Reared in his native town in Norway, Alfred Anderson received his schooling in the public schools and remained at home until he was past twenty-one years of age, when, in 1882, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out to Minnesota, beginning work on a farm in the vicinity of Rushford, in Fillmore county. In 1884, attracted by the possibilities then awaiting settlers up in the Red River valley, he came up here and located in Norman county, spending his first winter here as a clerk in a store at Faith. He then went to Lake Park and was there engaged until in October, 1885, when he became engaged as a clerk in the store of Thorpe Brothers at Ada and was there thus engaged until Christmas time in that year, when he was transferred to the store the Thorpe Brothers had opened at the old Twin Valley townsite. In the fall of 1886 that store was moved to the new Twin Valley townsite and Mr. Anderson continued connected with the same, in the employ of Thorpe Brothers, until the spring of 1888, when he transferred his services to D. Swenson and was employed by the latter for a year, or until the spring of 1889, when he received his first com-

mission as postmaster of Twin Valley. Entering upon the duties of that office in the spring of 1889 Mr. Anderson remained postmaster until in November, 1893, after which he engaged in the drug business at Twin Valley and was thus engaged until 1896. He then became employed in the store of J. K. Weisem and after a year or two transferred his services to the hardware store of Froshaug & Myron and was there employed when, in 1899, he was again appointed postmaster of Twin Valley. Under his second commission as postmaster Mr. Anderson served for more than fifteen years, or until May 1, 1915, since which time he has continued in the postoffice, acting as assistant to the present incumbent, J. J. Meighen. Mr. Anderson has for many years taken an active part in the civic affairs of his home town and of the county at large and for sixteen years served as recorder of the village of Twin Valley his records being kept in a fine clerkly hand.

In the year 1887 Alfred Anderson was united in marriage to Keren Undelind, also a native of the kingdom of Norway, born near Bergen in 1866, and to this union eleven children have been born, Gena M., Clarence, Arnold, Nettie, Alette, Harold (deceased), Oscar, Howard, Elmer, Ernest and Morris. The Andersons are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other local good works. Mr. Anderson was one of the organizers of the local congregation in 1891 and has been an officer of the same ever since the church was organized, at present serving as clerk of the congregation.

JOHN A. LIBOK.

John A. Libok, one of Norman county's substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and eighty acres in Good Hope township and who also is interested in the grain and lumber business at Shelly, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota and of the Red River country since the days of the pioneers here. He was born on December 19, 1858, a son of Andrew and Anna (Olson) Anderson, also natives of Norway, who were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Margretta, who is now living in Canada, and Gunil and Katrina, who are living in North Dakota. In 1881 Andrew Anderson and his family came to the United States, arriving here on May 23, of that year, and came up into the Red River country. In 1884 Andrew Anderson homesteaded

a tract of land in Nelson county, North Dakota, and later he and his wife returned to Norway, where their last days were spent.

John A. Libok was about twenty-three years of age when he came to this country and upon his arrival here engaged in farming and has ever since been thus engaged, having become one of the well-to-do farmers of Good Hope township, where he has a fine farm of three hundred and eighty acres and one of the best farm plants in that neighborhood. He established his home there a year after his marriage in 1890 and has since made many valuable improvements to the place, planting trees and erecting all the buildings that now stand on the place. In addition to his extensive farming operations, Mr. Libok has other interests, having shares in the company operating the elevator and lumber yards at Shelly and stock in the bank at Lockhart. He has ever given a good citizen's attention to the civic affairs of his home community, having served as a member of the board of township supervisors, as a member of the school board in his home district and in other local official capacities, in all giving his most thoughtful and intelligent attention to the needs of the public.

On December 15, 1890, John A. Libok was united in marriage to Christina Flikka, also a native of Norway, who came to this country in 1886, and to this union two children have been born, Albert and Clara, both of whom are living on the home farm with their parents. The Liboks have a very pleasant home in Good Hope township and have ever taken an interested and helpful part in the community's general social activities.

EDWARD E. BJORGE.

Edward E. Borge, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a compact farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in Spring Creek township, Norman county, for years assessor in the same township and also serving on the school board, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in Gudbrandsdalen, December 4, 1867. He is a son of Engbrit and Moren Borge, natives also of Norway, who came to America and died at Maplebay, Minnesota. They were the parents of five children, namely, Hans, who lives in Canada; Iver, deceased; Karen, living in Canada; Cecil, deceased, and Edward E., the subject of this sketch.

Edward E. Borge, who came to America in 1886, is the only member of his family to settle in the United States. He has followed farming all

of his life and is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Spring Creek township and on which he is actively engaged in general farming, his labors having been always helped by the use of horses in the work. Mr. Bjorge has by his own labor erected a substantial dwelling house on his place; also a barn and other buildings have been put up. The appearance of his holding has been much improved by a grove which he set out, the farm originally being bare of timber. From the commencement of his operations Mr. Bjorge has made a success of his undertaking and is regarded throughout the community as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

On December 28, 1895, Edward E. Bjorge was united in marriage to Maria Norby, born in Norway and who came to this country at the age of five years. To this union the following children have been born: Minnie, Maria (deceased), Oscar, Louise, Palmer, Elmer (deceased), Ida, Alice, Clarence, Clara, Oliver, Ella and Ernest. Many of these children assist in the work of the farm. Mr. Bjorge for several years has been giving close attention to local civic matters and has served as assessor of Spring Creek township for many years and has also been on the school board for a considerable period. He is a member of the Lutheran church and warmly interested in all its good works. He is a stockholder in the Gary Telephone Company at Gary, this state, and otherwise has been identified with the progress of the community in which he resides.

GEORGE C. BAUER.

George C. Bauer, one of the most energetic and progressive farmers of Pleasant View township, owner of four hundred and forty acres of the best of land in that township, was born in Evansville, Indiana, in 1867, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was six years old. He is a son of Constant Bauer and wife, who came to the state of Minnesota in an early day.

Constant Bauer followed the trade of a carpenter, working at that occupation for forty years in Evansville, Indiana, and at Red Wing, Minnesota, when he took up residence at the latter place. While living at Red Wing he acquired a tract of land, which he later sold. He died about 1875 at the age of forty-two years. His wife died in 1880 at the age of fifty-two years. They were the parents of the following children: Albert, de-

ceased; Ben, married, living in Minneapolis, this state; Yetta, deceased; Lizzie, married, living in Wisconsin; George C., the subject of this sketch, and Emil, married, who owns land in section 16, Pleasant View township.

George C. Bauer was educated in the schools of Red Wing, this state, and was reared in his parent's home in that place. In 1880 he came to Norman county and worked on farms for some time. About 1889, in partnership with his brother, Emil, he bought land and later acquired a holding on his own account, gradually adding to the place, and is now the owner of four hundred and forty acres of prime land, residing in section 14, and also owns land in sections 11 and 15. Mr. Bauer made many valuable improvements on his holdings and is recognized as one of the progressive farmers of the township, carrying on general farming according to the most approved modern methods.

In 1891, at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, George C. Bauer was united in marriage to Bertha Duenow, born in Wisconsin in 1871. To this union the following children have been born: Minnie, Dora, Herbert, Martha and Walter. The Bauer family are members of the Lutheran church, of which Mr. Bauer was at one time a trustee. He takes a general interest in the commercial welfare of the district in which he resides and is a stockholder in the local creamery and elevator and in the Farmers and Merchants bank at Ada. At the present time he serves on the township school board, his interest in educational matters being well known to the people of the township.

JOHANNES PEDERSON LIEN.

Johannes Pederson Lien, a prosperous farmer and well-known citizen of Twin Valley, Fossum township, Norman county, was born in Norway on May 3, 1846, being the only child born to Peter and Maret (Arnesdatter) Ingebrightson, the latter having been married before. The parents, both natives of Norway, heard the call of opportunity in the New World and came to America, settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, and remained there until 1872. In that year they yoked a team of oxen to a covered wagon in which they had loaded their household goods and a few farming implements, and came overland from Zumbrota township, Goodhue county, to Fossum township, Norman county, the journey taking thirteen days. In the party of immigrants there were, besides the Ingebrightson family, Hans Aamoth and family and a Yankee farmer who left the settlers in Otter

Tail county. As soon as the Ingebrightson family arrived in Fossum township, the father pre-empted one hundred sixty acres, where the subject of this review now lives, but he did not prove it up. The son, however, let the quarter section of section 34 which he had pre-empted, revert and took over his father's place where the family immediately took up their residence until the death of the parents.

Johannes Pederson Lien spent the days of his youth and early manhood in Norway, where he attended the common schools, and when his parents decided to emigrate to America, he gave the change his hearty consent and came over with them when he was twenty-four years of age. Three years before his coming to the land of opportunity, he was united in marriage with Agnethe Hansdatter, born in Norway, a daughter of Hans P. Amoth, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. As is shown above, he allowed his first pre-empted holdings to revert in order to take over his father's place, and there he and his family have since lived. With diligence and marked industry he set about to improve the holding by erecting substantial farm buildings and by planting a grove since the land was cut out of the bare prairie. Later he extended his holdings by the purchase of one hundred twenty acres of state land in section 31, Fossum township, but he sold this in 1915. By dint of hard work and careful management on his farm, where he has carried on general agriculture, Mr. Pederson Lien has become very comfortably and pleasantly situated on his fine, well-improved farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Pederson Lien have been born the following children: Peter, Carrie, Emiline, Nels, Sebert and Lewis, all of whom are living; however there are three children who are dead: John, Isabell and Anna. Mr. Pederson Lien and family, as were his parents, are firm and very active members of the Lutheran church. He and his father helped to organize the East Wild Rice church and were especially instrumental in the construction of the first church building, for they cut logs and hauled them to the site of the present edifice and there helped to construct a log meeting house. Moreover, the father and son, being among the first settlers of Fossum township, helped to organize the township as it stands today. Mr. Pederson Lien has always been deeply interested in furthering the educational interests of the community, for he not only has been a member of the township board but has also served as a school board director and at different times as treasurer. When the time came to organize the eleventh school district, the meeting was held in Mr. Pederson Lien's home, when he served as director on the first school board. Obviously, Mr. Pederson Lien has

been a strong asset to his community, for every movement for bettering social, educational and business conditions has met with his marked approval and his hearty co-operation; thus he stands among his neighbors as an example of good citizenship.

HANS O. SOLUM.

Hans O. Solum, the well-to-do proprietor of a two hundred and eighty-seven acres and formerly a well-known grain buyer of Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Hadeland, Norway, in 1862, a son of Ole H. and (Kari) Stadum Solum, the former of whom was a laborer in the old country, but some years after settling in Minnesota became a prosperous farmer.

In 1868 the Solum family immigrated to the United States and on arriving in Minnesota, settled in Fillmore county, where they acquired a homestead tract on which they resided for four years, during this period laying the foundations of the success which subsequently they achieved. The elder Solum was among the first to settle in Tansem township, Clay county, and began his farming career with a wagon, a yoke of oxen and three cows. He built a log cabin with a sod roof, and in that the family lived for several years. The elder Solum, on one occasion started to Alexandria with oxen to get a quantity of wheat ground into flour, but while on the journey, at Fergus Falls, he traded the wheat for flour and returned. The children of the Solum family were: Hans O., Andrew, Sever, Martin and Peter.

Hans O. Solum was reared on a frontier farm and was educated in the common schools, remaining at home until he was twenty-three years old. He assisted his parents in the labors of improving and developing the farm and his boyhood days were full of hard work, mingled with experiences common to boys in a new country. After his marriage in 1885, Mr. Solum bought land in Tansem township and began farming operations with a team of oxen, remaining for three years on that farm, at the end of which time he moved to Barnesville and bought grain for the Minnesota and Dakota Elevator Company, remaining with the company for two years. For several years he was in partnership with S. F. Packard in the grain-buying business at Barnesville, having warehouses in that place and in Lawndale, and for six years did a very successful business. Mr. Solum disposed of his interest in the grain business in 1895 and became connected with the Min-

neapolis & Northern Elevator Company, and was thus engaged for ten years or more.

In 1885 Hans O. Solum was united in marriage to Eugeborg Haugen, who was born in Norway and who came to this country with her parents, who were numbered among the earlier settlers of Otter Tail county, this state. To this union the following children have been born: Peter (deceased), Hilda, Emma, Carl, Mabel, Norman and Eddie. The parents of Mrs. Solum, Peter and Kari (Loftingmo) Haugen, were natives of Norway and on coming to Minnesota took a homestead near Erhart, Otter Tail county, and there spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Solum has ever given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and has served on the city council for four years and is also a member of the school board, and for some years was treasurer of the same. Upon his retirement from the grain business he bought an interest in the concern of Norby & Solum, general merchants, Barnesville, and was in the company for four years. He bought his father's homestead and has lived on it since 1913. This was originally a tract of eighty acres, to which he has added and is now the owner of two hundred and eighty-seven acres. Mr. Solum is also engaged in breeding full-blooded Shorthorn cattle and is regarded throughout the township as one of the progressive and prosperous farmers of the community in which he resides.

NIKOLAI NELSON.

Nikolai Nelson, one of the well-known and substantial farmers of Good Hope township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was fifteen years of age. He was born on March 16, 1877, a son of Nels and Engbor (Aslock) Larson, farming people, natives also of Norway, who are still living in that country and who are the parents of seven children, all of whom are still living, those besides the subject of this sketch being Anna, Louritz, Emanuel, Bertina, Martina and Maria. Of these children, the three sons are all farming in Norman county. Of the daughters, one, the first-born, Anna, widow of Ludwig Nilson, came to this country and is now living in the village of Lockhart, in Norman county. The other daughters continue to make their homes in their native land.

In 1892 Nikolai Nelson was brought to this country and he was reared in Minnesota, receiving here his schooling and being trained in the way

of practical farming. He married in 1904 and established his home on his present fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Good Hope township, where he has continued to reside and where he and his family are very pleasantly and very comfortably situated. One of the first moves Mr. Nelson made upon taking possession of his farm was to plant trees, which are now beginning to form a most attractive feature of the landscape there. He erected the buildings which form his well-kept farm plant and all the improvements he has made on the place bear the marks of substantiality. In addition to his farming and stock raising, in which he has been quite successful, Mr. Nelson gives proper attention to the general business affairs of his home community and is a shareholder in the Halstead Telephone Company. He has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, serving as treasurer of school district No. 83.

On December 10, 1904, Nikolai Nelson was united in marriage to Carrie Stuhaug, who was born on October 13, 1885, at Norway, daughter of Ole and Berte Stuhang, and to this union have been born five children, Manda, Oscar, Clifford, Garfield and Stanley. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Lutheran church, which Mr. Nelson helped to organize, and take an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community in which they live, and are helpful in promoting all movements designed to advance the common welfare not only of that community, but of the county at large.

R. M. LEE.

R. M. Lee, a prosperous and extensive farmer, part owner of six hundred and forty acres of choice land in Spring Creek township, Norman county, chairman of the township board and otherwise connected with the public life of the community, is a native of the state of Iowa, born in Webster City, Hamilton county, October 28, 1888. He is a son of P. W. and Nettie (Selder) Lee, natives of the state of Ohio, who are still living in Webster City, Iowa. They are the parents of four children, namely, Bessie F., J. W., R. M., and R. S.

R. M., the third-born of the children of P. W. and Nettie Lee, was educated in the schools of Iowa and in 1907 came to his present farm. He is part owner of six hundred and forty acres of excellent land, on which he carries on general farming on an extensive scale, and in addition he operates

a stock farm, the principal line in this connection being cattle, which also he handles on a large scale, and it is generally recognized that Mr. Lee is one of the most prosperous farmers in the county.

In 1912 R. M. Lee was united in marriage to Mabel Lindom, born in Larimore, North Dakota, but reared in Norman county. To this union the following children have been born: Paul W., Russel E., Robert and Ruth, all of whom are living. Mr. Lee gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and is now serving as chairman of the township board, of which he has been a member for three years, and in other ways he has given of his time and energy to the interest of the community at large.

ALBERT HEGLIE.

One of the progressive and prosperous farmers of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he owns and operates eighty acres of excellent land and where he is interested in the important common business enterprises of the community, is Albert Heglie, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, November 10, 1870, a son of Michael O. and Augusta (Hegansson) Heglie. They were both natives of Norway, from which they immigrated to this country in 1867 or 1868, and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota. They came from the Atlantic seaboard as far as Rushford, that county, by rail, and from there they drove overland to Lanesboro, Fillmore county, where they located. There the father soon obtained employment on the farms surrounding the little city, but later he worked in a flouring mill within the confines of the town. As the real-estate interests seemed to promise well for the future, he invested his savings in a six acre tract within the city limits. His death occurred there in 1914 and his widow still makes her home in the city. They were the parents of eight children, as follow: Caroline, Marie, Ole, deceased, Albert, Anker, Marie, deceased, Martin and Oscar. The father and mother were devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they reared their children in this faith.

Albert Heglie spent his boyhood and grew to maturity in Lanesboro, where he received his early schooling, but after he reached the age of seventeen years, he left his father's home and came northward into Norman county, this state, making his home with his brother-in-law, Svevre J. Lee, until the autumn of 1888. In that year he returned to Lanesboro, where he remained until 1891, in which year he returned to Norman county, remaining there employed in various capacities until 1897. In that year, he started out

independently in farming and settled where he now is on his farm of eighty acres. Since the land was new, much labor was entailed to bring it up to the standard of cultivation and improvement. Doing almost all of the work himself, he erected the necessary farm buildings and planted a grove, and now he has a well-appointed farm plant. In his general farming operations, he has experienced marked success.

In 1897, the year in which he settled on his own place, Mr. Heglie was united in marriage to Marie Westerdahl, who was born in Norway, November 4, 1873, a daughter of Peter and Brita Westerdahl, and as a result of this marriage, four children have been born, all of whom are living: Hilda, aged thirteen years; Paul, who is seven years old; Gustave, five years of age, and Anker, aged three. Mr. and Mrs. Heglie are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Ranum, and they take interest in all the good works of the community. Although Mr. Heglie has not sought after office, he takes a good citizen's interest in the civil and political affairs of the community in which he has been a continuous resident for twenty years. He is connected with several of the important co-operative business enterprises of the vicinity. He is interested in the mercantile companies of Rindahl and Bear Park, both of which he helped to organize, and in the Gary Telephone Company. Furthermore, he helped to organize the creamery at Rindahl.

PETER WOUTERS.

Peter Wouters, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres of prime land in Cromwell township, Clay county, is a native of the kingdom of Holland, born in that country in 1863, a son of John and Jeanetta Wouters, also natives of that country, who came to America in 1873.

Peter Wouters, at the age of ten years, in 1873, accompanied his parents to this country and began early to work on farms, his education being largely the result of study and reading. He rented in 1889, renting land for about three years, the place containing two hundred and forty acres, which he subsequently bought. As he prospered in his farming operations he added to his holding and is now the owner of three hundred and sixty acres of prime land, on which he carries on general farming and on which he has carried out most of the present improvements, being generally recognized as one of the prosperous and progressive farmers in the township.

In 1892 Peter Wouters was united in marriage to Margaret Dinsmore, a daughter of Jacob Dinsmore and wife. To this union the following children have been born: Arthur, John, Richard, Margaret and Gordon, all of whom are living. Mr. Wouters has been living on the farm most all his life since coming here. He has always given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and served as chairman of the township board for nine years. He is interested in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Hawley and also in the State Bank at Hawley. He has been an active member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen for about twenty years, and in the affairs of that fraternal organization he takes a warm interest.

MARTIN JOHNSON.

Martin Johnson, a well-known and substantial farmer of Pleasant View township, Norman county, now living retired, owner of several tracts of land, aggregating some five hundred and sixty acres of prime land, former township supervisor and otherwise widely known for his activities in regard to public affairs, is a native son of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was seventeen years old. He is the son of John and Johannah Johnson and was born in Norway on December 4, 1850, coming to the United States with his parents in 1867.

John Johnson was born in Norway about the year 1800 and was educated in the schools of that country and in later life worked as a farmer, continuing at that occupation after settling near Red Wing, Minnesota, where he lived towards the end of his life with his son, Tullaf, and died in 1897, having reached the advanced age of ninety-seven years. His wife, Johannah Johnson, also a native of Norway, came with her husband to this country. She died in 1901 at the old age of ninety-three years. They were the parents of the following children: Tullaf, married, lives at Red Wing, this state; Helena, married, also living in Red Wing; Nicholina, believed to have died in Norway, and Martin, the subject of this sketch. John Johnson and his wife were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the tenets of the same faith.

Martin Johnson was educated in the schools of Norway and at the age of seventeen years, in 1867, immigrated to America, accompanying his parents to this country and proceeding on out to Red Wing, Minnesota, where the family settled and where the subject of this sketch helped in the



MARTIN JOHNSON AND FAMILY.

labors of the farm, a valuable assistant to his father. In 1885 he moved to Ada, but in the preceding years held a rented farm near Lake City, Minnesota, and on coming to Norman county he settled in Pleasant View township, where he bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 17, and as he prospered in his agricultural operations he added to his holdings, and is now the owner of five hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, located in different sections, and is accounted one of the substantial farmers in this part of Norman county, his farming operations being conducted according to modern methods. He now lives retired.

In January, 1875, at Red Wing, Minnesota, Martin Johnson was united in marriage to Martha Hoef, a native of Germany, born in 1850, and who came to America in 1868 with her mother, her father having preceded them a few years earlier. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are the parents of the following children: John, Gustav, Clara, Kattie (deceased), Martha, Charlie, Ella and William. The mother of these children died in 1905. Mr. Johnson's son-in-law, Fred Riehl, who married Clara Johnson, works the farm and carries on mixed farming and raises blooded stock cattle. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Lutheran church and in former years served as trustee. He gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and was elected to the township board and also served as township supervisor. He helped to organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Ada and in various other ways he has given of his time and energies to the promotion of all movements designed to promote the general welfare of the township and county.

JOHN JENSEN.

John Jensen, a well-known and prosperous farmer, owner of two hundred and eighty acres of prime land in Fossum township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States for nearly fifty years and of Norman county since 1872. He was born in Norway on September 28, 1849, a son of Jens Jorgen and Elsie Katherine (Olson) Knutson.

Jens Jorgen Knutson and his wife were born in Norway, and they spent all their lives in that country, each dying in the same year, their deaths occurring in the summer of 1859. Jens J. Knutson was educated in the schools of his native land and in his early years taught school, after which

he engaged in farming and continued at that occupation to the end of his life. They were the parents of nine children, as follow: Knut (deceased), Ole (deceased), Annie (deceased), Jorgen, John, the subject of this sketch; Jens, Margareta (deceased), Elsie Marie and Ole Bjorn (deceased). Jens Knutson and wife were members of the Lutheran church and were earnest supporters of all its good works, and were regarded as among the most esteemed citizens of the locality where they resided.

John Jensen was educated in the schools of Norway and at the death of his parents, when he was a boy of ten years, he went to live with and work for his uncle, John Morland, who was his uncle on his father's side. John Jensen early displayed an inclination for the life of a sailor and when he was sixteen years old he signed onto a ship for a period of two years, at four dollars per month. His ship went to Havana and almost all the crew took yellow fever, with the result that the ship was ordered back to Norway and in consequence, Mr. Jensen's term of service did not extend beyond sixteen months. He left the life of the sea for a life on land and in the spring following his change of occupation, he and his brother, Jens, immigrated to America. On arriving in this country they proceeded to the state of Illinois and remained in Leland, that state, for about two months, moving thence to Rice county, Minnesota, and remained there until 1872. In the latter year they moved to Norman county, the journey being accomplished by ox-team, their goods being conveyed in covered wagons, the journey occupying three weeks. The party consisted of Henry Benson, George Johnson, Jens Morland and John Jensen, the three latter being brothers. The four members of the party either took homestead claims or pre-empted land in Fossum township. John Jensen took the southeast quarter of section 20, in that township, where he carried on general farming until 1912, in which year he sold out and came to the farm in section 8, which he has since occupied. Here he is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of excellent land, on which he has erected a number of fine buildings, and is regarded throughout the township as one of the progressive and substantial farmers. While living on the homestead tract he improved the place; his first residence was a log house and in time this was replaced by a good frame building.

In 1873 John Jensen was united in marriage to Emilia Larson, a native of the state of Iowa, and a daughter of W. Larson and wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Jensen the following children were born: William, Carl O., Edward, Lizzie, Clara, who died at the age of two years; Clara (2), Alma, Birdie, who, died at the age of fourteen years, and Nile. Mr. Jensen has ever

given a good citizen's attention to the general affairs of his neighborhood and township, and helped to select the location of the East Wild Rice church and has been a member of that congregation ever since. At the date of the organization of Fossum township he took a practical part in the work of farming the township and has served as township supervisor. He also has been a member of the local school board and for many years was a road boss, and in these several public positions acquitted himself with advantage to the interests he represented. Mr. Jensen was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator at Twin Valley, and also lent his aid in the formation of the Twin Valley Creamery Company, and in many other ways he has given evidence of his capacity to help in all useful projects and is regarded as one of the progressive citizens of the township and county, of which he has been a resident for the past forty-five years.

HANS HALVORSON.

Hans Halvorson, a well-known and well-to-do farmer of Home Lake township, owner of three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was seventeen years old, coming with his parents, three brothers having preceded him some time before. Hans Halvorson was born in 1862, a son of Halvor and Christina (Johnson) Peterson, also natives of Norway.

Halvor Peterson was educated in the schools of Norway, later working at farm labor for some years, when in 1879 he decided to immigrate to America, where three of his sons preceded him, the reports sent home by these boys on farming conditions in this state being of a favorable character. After arriving in this country Halvor Peterson spent two years in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in 1881 he moved to Norman county and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24, Rockwell township, later acquiring one hundred and sixty acres of a tree claim in the same section, the latter not being now in possession of his survivors. Halvor Peterson was engaged throughout the active years of his life in carrying on general farming and met with success in his agricultural operations. He died in 1896 at the age of seventy-three years and his widow survived until 1915, when she died at the fine old age of ninety years, while living in Twin Valley. They were the parents of the following children: Peter, married,

is the owner of land in Rockwell township; John, married and living in Valley City, North Dakota; Ed, deceased, as also his wife, left a daughter who married Severn Walsted and lives in Rockwell township; Christ, living in Norway; Hans, the subject of this sketch; Seifert, married and living in Valley City, North Dakota, and Julius, who died in 1901 in Twin Valley.

Hans Halvorson was educated in the schools of Norway and at the age of seventeen years he accompanied his parents to America, going first to Fillmore county, this state, and later coming to Norman county with his parents. He worked at farm labor for some years, finally buying land on his own account and is now the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land in section 6, Home Lake township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising, being recognized as one of the substantial and progressive farmers of the township. Mr. Halvorson carried out many improvements on his holding since acquiring it and has one of the well-kept places in the neighborhood.

Hans Halvorson was united in marriage to Mrs. John Hall, who was born in Fillmore county, this state, and whose parents are deceased. The following children have been born to Hans Halvorson and wife: John, deceased; Clara, at home; Edwin, married; and Adolph and Mabel, both at home. Mr. Halvorson has ever given a good citizen's attention to public affairs and helped to organize the first school district and served on the school board for many years. He helped in the organization of the creamery at Twin Valley, holding stock in that progressive undertaking, and in other ways he has demonstrated his ability to serve the general community welfare.

JACOB E. MILSTEN.

Jacob E. Milsten, a well-known and substantial farmer and stock raiser of Fossum township, who, during his residence in this state, has given evidence of a versatile and keen business instinct, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in the United States since he was twenty years old. He was born on July 28, 1858, a son of Erick Christianson and Kari (Storhugen) Milsten, also natives of Norway, who immigrated to America in 1878.

Erick C. Milsten arrived at Albert Lee, Minnesota, in July, 1878, and worked in that place for two years. He then moved to Norman county via ox team, supplied by his son, Jacob E., and by which the parents and the

other members of the family travelled to their new home. The father took a homestead tract of eighty acres in Bear Park township and on this land he carried on farming during all the active years of his life, later retiring to Gary, where they lived for a time, finally taking up residence with their daughter, Kari, in Sundahl township, Norman county, in which place they died. They were the parents of nine children as follow: Christian, deceased; Anna, deceased; Jacob E., the subject of this sketch; Ingeborg, deceased; Eliza, deceased; Carrie; Martha; Mary, and Rangdina, deceased. Carrie, Martha and Mary are living. The Milstens were members of the Lutheran church and their children also were reared in that faith.

Jacob E. Milsten was educated in the schools of Norway and at the age of twenty years came with his parents to America, in 1878, and brought them and the other members of the family to Norman county by ox team. During the same year he homesteaded a quarter section of land in Sundahl township, Norman county, and on that place he lived for some years, engaged in general farming, having improved the holding with buildings and also set out a fine grove. He then moved to Bear Park township and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he placed under improvements and on which he lived for a time. During his residence there he filled the office of township supervisor and served as a director of the local school board. His next move brought him to Gary, where he conducted a general store for a time and then organized the Gary Mercantile Company, of which he was the cashier for about two years, making in all about four years as a merchant in Gary. Mr. Milsten, at the end of his mercantile connection with Gary, came to Faith, Fossum township, and bought a flour-mill, operating the same alone for about one year, at the end of which time he sold a half interest to his cousin, Nels Kjos. The partnership continued until the death of Mr. Kjos, following which Mr. Milsten continued to carry on the business for a further period of two years, when he sold it to his son, Alfred, and Christ N. Juhl. Mr. Milsten then moved to his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 12, Fossum township, and has cleared over one hundred acres of that place, having the same in an advanced state of cultivation, and on which he is now carrying on general farming and stockraising, having from the beginning of his operations met with a large measure of success. The holding has been improved by the addition of good buildings and the entire farm presents evidence of care and attention.

In 1882 Jacob E. Milsten was united in marriage to Hannah Yesen, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Nels Yesen and wife. To this un-

ion the following children were born: Clara, Ella (deceased), Edwin, Alfred, Eda, Hulda, Anton (deceased), Emma, Anna, Olga and Bernhard. With the exception of Ella and Anton, the other children are living. The Milsten family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works. Mr. Milsten has always given a good citizen's attention to public affairs, but has never been a seeker after office.

MADS ROBERTSON

Mads Robertson, one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Lockhart township, Norman county, and the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres there, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark and has been a resident of Minnesota since the year 1900. He was born on a farm in the vicinity of Fyn, Denmark, March 13, 1881, the last in order of birth of the eleven children born to Rasmus and Maren Robertson, natives of that same country, who spent all their lives there, the others of these children being Nels, Christ, Hans, Jorgen, Christopher, Frederick, Anna, Cherry, Cena (deceased) and Kirsten. Of these children, but two besides the subject of this sketch came to America, these two being Nels and Christ, the latter of whom is engaged in the railway service, in the employ of the Great Northern Railroad Company. The others are engaged in agricultural pursuits in their native land.

It was in 1900, as noted above, that Mads Robertson came to the United States. He lost little time in making his way to Minnesota and in due time became the owner of the fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres on which he now lives in Lockhart township, Norman county, and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Mr. Robertson has made extensive improvements on his farm since taking possession of the same, including substantial farm buildings. In addition to his general grain farming, Mr. Robertson has given considerable attention to the raising of potatoes and has been quite successful. He is a man of method and keeps a careful account of outgo and income, as well as applying up-to-date principles to his farming, and has thus been able to figure that since taking possession of his farm the same has paid him almost a clear ten per cent. on the investment.

On July 31, 1907, Mads Robertson was united in marriage to Lizzie

Lewerenz, who was born in this country and whose parents have a farm in the vicinity of Paynesville, in Stearns county, this state, and to this union two children have been born, Chester and Lillian. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson are members of the Lutheran church, and take a proper part in the general good works of the community in which they live. They have a pleasant home, the surroundings of which have been beautified by the planting of shade and fruit trees since they entered upon the possession of their place, and have made for themselves a substantial place in the community.

EDWARD C. SCHROEDER.

Edward C. Schroeder, farmer, of Glyndon township, Clay county, was born on the home farm in Elmwood township, this county, June 14, 1880. He is a son of Henry Schroeder, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work.

The subject of this sketch grew up on the home farm, where he worked during the crop seasons, attending the district schools in the winter time, and later was a student in Concordia College at Moorhead. He also attended the Dakota Business College at Fargo. In 1902 he began farming for himself on his present farm in Glyndon township, and he is owner of one of the choice farms of Clay county, consisting of five hundred and seventy acres, which is regarded as one of the best improved farms in the county. It is in a fine state of cultivation and everything denotes thrift, prosperity and good management. Mr. Schroeder has an attractive modern home in the midst of beautiful surroundings, and also a large group of substantial convenient outbuildings, all modern in arrangement. He is not only a close observer and a man of original ideas, but is a diligent student of the best literature relating to advanced agricultural methods. He raises a vast quantity of grain, a large part of which he feeds to live stock, preparing a number of carloads of cattle and hogs for the market annually. He is a breeder of registered Holstein cattle, and he keeps a dairy herd that is unsurpassed in the northwest. He has bred several cows which have won first honors in world tests. He has been offered and refused twenty thousand dollars for the male Holstein that heads his fine herd. His stock always bring fancy prices when offered for sale, owing to their superior qualities and are greatly admired by all who see them. He is widely

known over the country for his herd of thoroughbred cattle, and also for his first-class potato seed. He raises a large acreage every year of Red River valley seed potatoes. He built an extensive potato warehouse on his farm near the Northern Pacific tracks, which road runs through his farm. However, the warehouse is reached by a private siding. His potatoes are shipped to many states and find a good market everywhere. He has made a special study of this line and understands every phase of raising and handling Irish potatoes. Mr. Schroeder employs on an average of about twenty men on his farm, all of whom are housed and fed on the place, whose homes together with the dwelling of the proprietor, barns and other out-buildings constitute a little village. The dwelling of Mr. Schroeder is in the midst of a large attractive grove and lawn.

Mr. Schroeder was married in 1902 to Magdelina J. Kuehl, a daughter of Denis Kuehl, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this volume. To this union five children have been born, namely: Irene, Edward, Carl, Elenora and Ruth.

Mr. Schroeder is president of the Dilworth Dairymens Association, and takes an active interest in its affairs. He has done much to encourage better dairying and better stock raising in this section of the country. He is a member of the Lutheran church. He is public-spirited, neighborly, a man of progressive ideas and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

IVER O. HAGEN.

Another son of the kingdom of Norway is Iver O. Hagen, owner of two hundred acres of fine land in Bear Park township, Norman county, and identified with the business life of the township for several years. He was born in Norway, a son of Ole G. and Kari (Lovenstuen) Hagen, natives also of Norway and who came to America in 1869.

When Ole G. Hagen arrived in this country he pushed on out to Minnesota and settled in Freeborn county, where he worked on farms and in 1882 moved to Norman county, where he has been living ever since. He homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bear Park township, where Iver O. Hagen, his son, is now living and where Mrs. Kari Hagen died some years ago. They were the parents of one child, Iver O., the subject of this sketch. During his active life Ole G. Hagen was a good farmer and a good citizen, ever concerned for those things best calculated

to promote the general welfare of the community. He helped to start the first church in Sundahl.

Iver O. Hagen had but a brief educational training in his native country and availed of the opportunity to complete his school course in America, where he attended school for some years. He came to Norman county in 1882 with his parents and has lived on the home farm ever since, having added an additional forty acres of railroad land to the original homestead tract which his father entered. He has erected some excellent buildings on the place, which he keeps in fine shape, and is regarded as one of the progressive and substantial farmers in the part of the township where he resides. He is engaged in general farming and has been doing very well.

In 1887 Iver O. Hagen was united in marriage to Marthia Hanson, born in Norway, a daughter of Hans Brohelden and wife, also natives of Norway, and to that union the following children were born: Ole, Helmer (deceased), Hans, Caroline, Ingvald and Gilbert. Following the death of the mother of these children, Mr. Hagen was married in 1901 to Caroline M. Hornshagen, born in Norway, a daughter of Michael Hanson and wife, and to this second union four children have been born, Iver, Manford, Melvin and Clarence. The Hagen family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and warmly interested in all its good works. Mr. Hagen helped to organize the Sundahl Mercantile Company and the Sundahl Creamery and to the business affairs of these two undertakings has given considerable attention.

ANTON NELSON.

Anton Nelson, a well-known and well-to-do farmer, owner of a compact farm of one hundred and seventeen acres of choice land, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since 1881 and of Norman county since the following year. He was born in Norway on January 18, 1858, a son of Nels and Renog (Severson) Johnson Erstad, both born in Norway and who came to America in 1883, the year after Anton Nelson arrived, and proceeded directly to Ada, Minnesota, later living at various places with their children, their last days being spent on Anton's place in Sundahl township, Norman county. They were the parents of seven children who grew to maturity, as follow: Jacob N., Johan N., Randi, who remained in Norway; Svert, Martinus, Anton and Guro, deceased.

Anton Nelson was educated in the schools of Norway and in 1881 came to Winneshiek county, Iowa, remaining there until March, 1882, when he moved to Norman county and worked on farms for two years. In 1884 he went to Montana and was married in that state in the summer of the same year, and worked with his father-in-law on a farm, remaining there until the spring of 1885, when he returned to Norman county. In 1887 Mr. Nelson bought eighty acres of land, which was in a raw state, and put up some buildings on same. For the next three years he rented land of P. H. Hanson and lived on the rented place, meantime being engaged in clearing and building on his own farm, which was mostly in timber. In 1890 he moved onto his own land and has lived there ever since. He is the owner of one hundred and seventeen acres of prime land on which he erected a fine house in 1913. He is engaged in general farming and breeds graded Short-horn cattle, doing very well in his agricultural operations from the beginning. His farm plant and place are well kept and he is regarded as one of the energetic and painstaking farmers in that part of the township.

In 1884 Anton Nelson was united in marriage to Betsie C. Peterson, born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, a daughter of Peter H. Peterson, who came in an early day and settled near Halstad, Norman county, going later to Montana. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are the parents of the following children: Nels M., Peter H., John R., Albert B., Ella B., Lena C. (deceased), Gilbert W., Lewis M., Mabel C. and Clarence S. The Nelson family are members of the Lutheran church and warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Nelson has long been giving close attention to local civic affairs and served on the township board for ten years, for one year being chairman. He helped to organize the Sundahl Creamery and the Sundahl Mercantile Company, and in other ways has given of his time and energy to the advancement of the interests of the community.

ROBERT H. FETTING.

Robert H. Fetting, the owner of one hundred sixty acres of well-improved land in Mary township, Norman county, where he carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture, was born in Wisconsin on March 8, 1860, a son of Ludwig and Henrietta (Krause) Fetting, both natives of Germany where they were reared, married and moved to America in 1856. The family settled in Wisconsin and there the father and mother lived the

rest of their lives on the old home farm, where the former carried on mixed farming, the father dying when the subject of this sketch was about fourteen years of age and the mother about twenty-five years ago. They were the parents of six children, the youngest of whom is Robert H., the others being: Amelia, deceased; Otto, married and living in Wisconsin, a retired farmer; Albert, married and also living in Wisconsin, a retired farmer, and Charlie and Rudolph, deceased.

For six years after the death of his father in 1874, Robert Fetting remained on the home farm aiding his widowed mother to develop the home farm where he had spent his boyhood, receiving his common school education in the district schools of the neighborhood. In 1880 he decided to cast his lot with the settlers in the new country which had recently been opened in Norman county, Minnesota, and accordingly he came out here and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in section 14, northwest quarter, and section 15, southwest quarter of southeast quarter, Mary township, where he still lives. He immediately set about putting his holding under cultivation and raised temporary farm buildings. As he prospered in his operations, he replaced the old shacks of his homesteading days with new and up-to-date farm buildings, it being only six years ago that he built his fine new farm house, where he and his family are very comfortably situated. He now carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture and is very successful in all his operations.

In 1882 Mr. Fetting was united in marriage to Mary Sontag, who was born in Missouri, in 1862, a daughter of John and Barbara Sontag, and to this union was born one child, a daughter, Otilie, who is married and living in North Dakota. Some time after the death of his first wife in 1894, Mr. Fetting married Sophia Kreier, who was born in Wisconsin, in 1875, a daughter of Herman and Johanna Kreier, the former now living in Montana and having once resided in Borup, this county, and the latter being deceased. Mrs. Fetting has four brothers in Montana and one, Paul Kreier, the proprietor of a transfer business, in Fargo, North Dakota, and two sisters. By his second wife Mr. Fetting is the father of eight children, namely: Arthur, at home; Esther, the wife of Chester Miller, now living in McDonaldsville township, this county; and Eddie, Janet, Martha, Hulda, Robert and Melvin, all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Fetting are consistent and conscientious members of the German Lutheran church and in the affairs of this denomination they take a proper interest.

In addition to his very busy operations on his fine farm, Mr. Fetting has found time to devote to the civic and co-operative business affairs of his

community. He was township assessor for a number of years, treasurer of the school board for fifteen years and is now director of the same. Being interested in bettering the marketing facilities of the farmers of this neighborhood, he is interested in the Farmers Elevator at Perley and in the potato warehouse at Borup. In politics Mr. Fetting is an ardent advocate of the Democratic party and fraternally, he is a member of Camp No. 2881, Modern Woodmen of America, at Ada, Minnesota. Religiously, politically, fraternally and socially Mr. Fetting is ever striving not only for the good of himself and family, but also for the betterment of the community in which he has made his home for so many years.

ALFRED R. OLSON.

Alfred R. Olson, a prosperous farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, was born on the farm, where he still lives in Waukon township, April 25, 1886, a son of Asle and Randi (Wermager) Olson, both of whom are natives of Norway. He operates five hundred acres of farming land, one hundred and sixty of which belong to him and he is well-known in the local civic and business interests of the community in which he lives.

Asle Olson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born on January 2, 1849, a son of Ole and Ingeborg (Aslesdatter) Knutson, both of whom were born in Norway, where the mother died. The father came to America late in life, after he was seventy years of age, to make his home with his children who had preceded him to this country, and his death occurred at the home of his grandson, Ole Olson, in Waukon township, Norman county, at the age of ninety-three years. Ole and Ingeborg Knutson were the parents of several children and the seven who grew to maturity are, as follow: Kari, who did not leave her native Norway, where she died in 1914; Knut, who lives on a farm in Waukon township, Norman county; Kristi, Barbro, Asle, the father of the subject of this sketch; Svend and Gunild, both still living in Norway.

Asle Olson received an elementary academic training in the local schools in his native land, and there he gave valuable assistance in the farming operations of his father. When he reached the age of twenty years, he decided to immigrate to the New World and here established his home on some of the fertile soil in the great West, of which he had heard so much from his friends and acquaintances who had friends and relatives in this

country. He set sail in the early part of 1869, landed on American soil without mishap, and located first in Rock county, Wisconsin, where he spent two years working as a farm hand on the holdings of the farmers of the vicinity. He left there in 1871 for South Dakota, where he remained for one summer and then in the autumn of that year he came to Houston county, Minnesota, where he lived for a period of seven years, working as a farm hand; thus it was that he gained much valuable training in farming operations peculiar to the Northwest, which stood him in good stead when he began farming on his own account. It was not until the spring of 1878 that he came to Norman county, which has since been his home, and took a homestead of a quarter section in Waukon township. After Asle Olson had filed the claim for his homestead in 1878, he returned to Houston county, Minnesota, and in the winter of that year he was married to Randi Wermager. She was born in Norway, April 29, 1853, a daughter of Ole and Christie (Hufton) Wermager, who immigrated to this country in the spring of 1869, settled in Houston county, Minnesota, where they lived until 1881, in which year they drove through to Norman county and homesteaded in Waukon township. He died at Gary, Norman county, at the advanced age of ninety-four years and she on the old homestead. Asle Olson lived on the farm until the spring of 1915, when he removed to Gary to look after his business interests. In the year preceding, however, he returned to Norway for a visit with his relatives and old friends who still live in that country. It was in February, 1916, that he formed a partnership with George Martinson, his son-in-law, for the purpose of establishing a hardware business at Gary, in which enterprise he has experienced much gratifying success. As the years have passed, Asle Olson has added to his holdings in Waukon township until he now is the proprietor of three hundred and forty acres of fine land, on which he has erected excellent buildings and planted a grove. Here, before he entered the hardware business, he carried on general farming and was a breeder of thoroughbred Holstein cattle.

To Asle and Randi Olson were born ten children and the five who are living as follow: Ida, Alfred, the subject of this review; Ole, Obert and Mary. The father has been very well-known in the local civil affairs, having helped to organize Waukon township, which he served as supervisor, treasurer and assessor for many years.

Alfred R. Olson was reared in the old home farm, where he still lives, and in the neighboring schools of Waukon township received his common-school education. During the summers, he gained a valuable agricultural

training while helping his father in the development of the homestead. Since a business education is a valuable asset to an intelligent and progressive farmer, Mr. Olson entered Concordia College at Moorhead, from which he graduated in the commercial course in the spring of 1906. He then returned home and took up his farming operations on the home place. He now operates five hundred acres, one hundred and sixty of which belongs to him and the remainder he rents from his father. He carries on general grain and stock farming, raising thoroughbred Holstein cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs. Mr. Olson was the first man in Waukon township to build a silo.

On November 24, 1915, Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Nora Lee, who was born in Pope county, Minnesota, on September 12, 1892, a daughter of Ole T. and Johanne (Hellen) Lee, well-known residents of Waukon township, Norman county, further mention of whom is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of one child, a daughter, Ruth. They are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Waukon, taking a proper interest in the affairs of this church society. In politics, Mr. Olson is a progressive, and has been frequently called upon to serve the citizens of his township in official capacity, which he has done with credit to himself. He has held many of the township offices, and for the last seven years he has been an incumbent of the important official trust of township treasurer. One of the local co-operative distributing agencies bears the impress of Mr. Olson's personality, the Waukon Mercantile Company, of which he is now secretary and treasurer.

OSCAR PETERSON.

Oscar Peterson, one of the younger and progressive farmers of Fossum township, Norman county, clerk to the township board and clerk to the school board, is a native son of Minnesota, born on his father's farm in Fossum township, where the Faith store is now located, on September 10, 1885. He is a son of Olaf and Carolina (Paulsdatter) Pederson, natives of Sweden and Norway, respectively.

Olaf Pederson was born in Sweden on May 9, 1851, a son of Peder and Katherina (Olsdatter) Larson, both natives of Sweden and where the former was a farmer. They were the parents of seven children as follow: Lars, Anna Maria, Katherina, Liza, Olaf, father of the subject of this sketch, and Annetta and Andres, deceased. Peder Larson and wife were earnest mem-

bers of the Lutheran church and their children and their children's children have been reared in that faith.

Olaf Pederson was educated in the schools of his native Sweden, later going to Norway, where he lived for ten years, during nine years of which he was a sailor and traveled to all the countries of Europe during that time. He married Carolina Paulsdatter in Norway and in 1882 immigrated to America, coming on out to Minnesota, and located in Faith, Fossum township, Norman county, and has since been living in this vicinity, one of the best-known farmers in the township. Mr. Pederson's first purchase of land was in section 14, Fossum township, where he acquired eighty acres, which he immediately proceeded to clear and improve and in a short time had it in a state of cultivation. As he prospered in his agricultural operations he added to his holding and is now the owner of two hundred acres of prime land, of which one hundred and forty acres have been cleared, and he is here actively engaged in general farming and stock raising, being regarded as one of the practical farmers in this section of the county.

On February 7, 1875, Olaf Pederson was united in marriage to Carolina Paulsdatter, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Paul and Paulina (Larsdatter) Johnson, the former of whom is deceased and the latter is now living near Faith, Norman county, at the great age of ninety years. To Olaf Pederson and wife the following children were born: Olaf, Peter, John, Lydia, Olga, Oscar and Clara. He is a member of the Lutheran church and is a warm supporter of all its good works and is interested in all matters calculated to benefit the community at large.

Oscar Peterson was educated in the schools of Norman county and later helped his father in the labors of the farm, a valuable assistant in the work of developing and improving the home place, and he has made Fossum township his place of residence ever since. In 1907 he commenced farming on his own account and he is now the owner of two hundred acres of choice land in sections 10, 15 and 14. In addition to his farming operations he is also a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Duroc-Jersey hogs and is doing very well in these lines, being recognized as one of the modern-method farmers of this part of the county, his outbuildings and other farming equipment being of a most substantial character.

In October, 1906, Oscar Peterson was united in marriage to Anna Hanson, born in Fossum township, a daughter of Andrew Hanson and wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Peterson four children have been born, namely: Adaline, Laurence, Hazel and Olaf, all of whom are living. The Peterson family are members of the Lutheran church and liberal contributors to its upkeep,

and Mr. and Mrs. Peterson take a proper part in the general social life of the community in which they live. Mr. Peterson gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and has been serving as township clerk for the past two years, still being in office, and has been clerk to the local school board for six years, and in these important positions is giving general satisfaction. He is interested in the Faith Creamery Company and fills the office of treasurer of that company. He helped to organize the Faith Milling Company and in many other directions he has given evidence of his ability to serve the best interests of the community.

CARL TALL

Among the younger generation of farmers in Clay county who have come to this country from Sweden, is Carl Tall, a substantial and progressive farmer, owner of a fine tract of land in section 28, Hawley township. He was born in that country in 1875, a son of Anders and Emma Tall, also born in that country, the former of whom is now deceased and the latter is living with her son, Nels, who came to Clay county in 1906.

Anders Tall was born in Sweden in 1845 and was educated in the schools of his native land. He was brought up to the life of a farmer and continued thus occupied during his active life. He died in Sweden in 1902. His wife, Emma Tall, also was born in Sweden and is now living with her son, Nels, and is in her seventy-third year. They were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the same faith. Anders Tall and his wife were active and influential residents of the district in which they lived. They were the parents of the following children: Nels, married; Alban, who lives in Sweden; Anna and Tilda, who are married, and Carl, the subject of this sketch.

Carl Tall was educated in the schools of Sweden and for a short time thereafter helped his father in the work of the farm. At the age of sixteen years he immigrated to the United States, in 1891, and on arriving in this country he came on out to Minnesota and settled in Clay county. He immediately commenced to work on farms and some time later he bought land and began farming on his own account. At the end of ten years, in 1901, he came on to his present farm of four hundred and eighty acres of prime land in section 28, Hawley township. He carries on general farming and since the commencement of his operations he has been most suc-

cessful, everything about his place being in excellent condition. Part of his land, to the extent of about thirty acres, is planted to potatoes. His industry and activity in his farm work entitle him to be classed as one of the progressive and substantial farmers of Hawley township. He has remodeled all his buildings.

In 1896 Carl Tall was united in marriage to Ida Krauz, who was born in Sweden in 1876, and whose death occurred in 1913. To Mr. and Mrs. Tall the following children were born: Olivia, Elvira, Sigrid, Rudolph, Hilding, Hulda, Augusta and Florence, all of whom are living. Mr. Tall is a member of the Lutheran church and is an earnest supporter of all its good works. He gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and has served as a director of the township school board and in other ways has given of his time and energy to help causes having for their object the common good of the community.

HUBERT ZERVAS.

Hubert Zervas, well-known retail meat dealer at Moorhead, a member of the Commercial Club and of the Retail Merchants Association in that city and for a longer time connected with the retail meat trade than any other person in Moorhead, is a native of Germany, but has lived in this country, a resident of Minnesota, since he was nineteen years of age. He was born on April 4, 1868, son of Hubert Zervas and wife, also natives of Germany, who spent all their lives in their native country and the former of whom was a butcher by trade.

The junior Hubert Zervas remained in his native country until he was nineteen years of age, receiving his schooling there and learning the butcher trade under the direction of his father. In 1887 he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating at St. Paul, where he remained until in March, 1889, when he came out to this part of the state and started to work in Hansen Brothers' meat market at Moorhead, remaining with that firm until August 16, 1894, when he and L. H. Levitre engaged in business for themselves. A year later Mr. Levitre withdrew from the partnership and Bruno Kippels became a partner of Mr. Zervas, that connection continuing until 1911, since which year Mr. Zervas has been conducting the business alone, the oldest meat dealer continuously engaged in

that line in Moorhead. He has an excellent trade and his establishment is conducted along modern lines, conforming to the most approved methods in the sanitary handling of meats. Mr. Zervas is a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club and of the Retail Merchants Association of that city and takes an active part in the general business affairs of the city.

On January 27, 1891, Hubert Zervas was united in marriage to Emma Levitre, a daughter of Peter Levitre, a pioneer farmer near Felton, now deceased, and to this union have been born six children, namely: John, who is now serving in the United States navy, at present attached to the Atlantic fleet; Mary, who is cashier in her father's meat market; Anna, who is now in school at St. Benedict's Academy at St. Joseph, this state; Hubert, who is in school at Moorhead, and Emma and Cecelia. Mr. and Mrs. Zervas are members of the Catholic church and their children have been reared in that faith. Mr. Zervas is a member of the Holy Name Society of his local parish. For twenty-five years he has been a member of the church choir and is now the leader of the same. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Catholic Order of Foresters and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest.

GEORGE K. SIRJORD.

George K. Sirjord, a well-known farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor and operator of a well-appointed farm of one hundred and sixty acres and is connected with several important co-operative business enterprises of that and neighboring communities, was born in Norway, May 26, 1868, a son of John and Mary (Anderson) Johnson, both of whom were born in Norway, where they spent their whole lives, the former there a farmer. They were the parents of fifteen children, and the nine who grew to maturity were: Sverup, deceased; Jorgen, John Tormela, deceased; Bergita, Anna, Mary, deceased; Hannah and George K., the subject of this review.

George Sirjord received his formal education in the public schools of his native land, and his agricultural training behind the plow on the old home farm there. In 1890, when he was twenty-two years of age, he immigrated to America, journeyed on out to Norman county, Minnesota, where he had friends, and there worked out on farms for several years, in order to acquire the necessary capital for starting out for himself. It

was in 1902 that he started farming where he now lives in Bear Park township, this county, and he operates one hundred and sixty acres, carrying on a scientific form of diversified agriculture. The farm plant is comprised of excellent buildings, around which is a beautiful grove, partly planted by Mr. Sirjord.

On November 1, 1908, George K. Sirjord married Mrs. Petra (Leines) Holmvik, and to this union two children have been born, Morris Gifford and Pearl Judie. Mrs. Sirjord was first married to John Holmvik in 1894, a year after she came to America. Mr. Holmvik had immigrated to this country with his mother and stepfather, who were early settlers of Norman county. By her first husband, Mrs. Sirjord had three children, Clara, Ada and Norman. Her parents, Cornelius and Petrena (Sahl) Leines, were natives of Norway, where they lived and died. Mrs. Sirjord had four brothers and two sisters, namely, Bang, Oluf, Kornelius, Ole, Nekoline and Ane. Mr. and Mrs. Sirjord are active workers in the Norwegian Lutheran church, rearing their children in that faith, and are zealous participants and hearty supporters of all the good works of the community in which they live.

In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Sirjord has important business interests. He helped to organize the Bear Park Mercantile Company and the Farmers Elevator at Bijou; he is also interested in the creamery at Rindahl. While he takes a good citizen's interest in public affairs of the same, however, he has never sought office.

JOHN CHRIST DESING.

John C. Desing, well-known lumberman, former justice of the peace in and for Elmwood township and otherwise identified with the public life of the community, is a native son of Clay county, born in Baker on December 29, 1886, a son of William and Fredericka (Wright) Desing, both natives of the German empire, and who came to America single, later marrying in Clay county.

John and Mary Desing, the paternal grandparents, came to America in an early day and were among the first homesteaders in the vicinity of Baker, Clay county, in which place they spent the remainder of their lives, honored and respected pioneers. The maternal grandparents also were among the early settlers, probably in the seventies, and likewise settled in the neighborhood of Baker, where they continued to reside to the end of their lives.

William Desing, father of the subject of this sketch, immigrated to this country in the early seventies and in 1874 came to Norman county and homesteaded a tract of land in Elmwood township, where he engaged in general farming for several years. Mr. Desing, who also learned the trade of a carpenter and was an expert workman, is now living in Roseau, Minnesota. His wife died some years ago. They were the parents of four children as follow: Mrs. Mary Peterson, who lives at Dalton, Minnesota; John C., the subject of this sketch; Manda, who lives in Rochester, Minnesota, and David, living with John C. The parents and sisters of the family belong to the Adventist church, while John C. and David are members of the Lutheran church.

John C. Desing was educated in the schools of Clay county and was reared on his father's farm, later acquiring a thorough knowledge of the carpenter trade while with D. W. Tulley, of Barnesville. In 1911 he moved to Downer and started out as a contractor on his own account, and for the next four years continued at that branch of activity and met with a considerable share of success. In 1915 Mr. Desing joined the Interior Lumber Company at Downer and from the beginning of this connection he has held the responsible position of manager. He also is engaged in the buying of potatoes for Louis Altenbrend during the past two years.

In June, 1916, John C. Desing was united in marriage to Clara Nelson, of Rollag, Minnesota, a daughter of C. E. Nelson, a pioneer of that place and who now resides in Osakis, this state. Mr. and Mrs. Desing have become the parents of two children, twins, Floyd and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Desing take an earnest interest in the social and general activities of the community in which they reside, ever desirous to assist in all movements calculated to benefit the people. In 1917 Mr. Desing built a handsome stucco residence, and here the family are comfortably situated.

LUDWIG B. LARSON.

Ludwig B. Larson, well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, former township assessor and former school clerk, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been living in this country since he was three years old. He was born in Norway on July 4, 1869, a son of Severt and Randi (Peters-datter) Larson, also natives of Norway.

Severt Larson immigrated to the United States in 1871, going on arrival to Ispeming, Michigan, his wife and child following from Norway in the following year, and a month after their arrival, Severt Larson died. While living in that place Mrs. Larson married for her second husband E. T. Krogstad, a native of Norway, and who came to this country in 1872. In 1875 they moved to Stillwater, Minnesota, and worked at various occupations, coming some time later to Goodhue county, this state, and there owned a farm, which they worked for a few years. In 1881 they moved to Norman county and immediately homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Strand township and lived there until 1892, in which year they came to Bear Park township and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres and here Mr. Krogstad died in the fall of 1916, and his widow is still living on the farm. Mrs. Krogstad, by her first marriage, was the mother of one child, Ludwig B. Larson, the subject of this sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Krogstad were the parents of the following children: Peter, Eddie (deceased), Eddie, Ole, John, Bennie, Mary, Albert and Richard. Mr. Krogstad served as supervisor in Strand township and served on the school board there and in Bear Park township, bringing to the execution of these duties a ripe intelligence.

Ludwig B. Larson obtained but a limited education in the schools of Norman county. He left home at the age of sixteen and went to Huron, South Dakota, and worked on the railroad construction of the Watertown-Huron branch. During the winter for six or seven years he worked in the woods of Wisconsin and Minnesota, and in the summer he was engaged in a saw-mill. In the winter of 1892 he suffered the loss of a leg while working in the woods and has since made artificial legs for his own use, following a walking plow and drag. On retiring from the labors of the woods, Mr. Larson worked on farms around Bear Park township until 1898, in which year he married and started farming on the place where he now lives. He bought out the land and is now the owner of one hundred and twenty acres of prime land, on which he erected all the present buildings with the exception of a portion of the house, and is engaged in general farming and stock raising and is doing very well.

In 1898 Ludwig B. Larson was united in marriage to Anna Johnson, born in Nicollet county, a daughter of Iver Johnson and wife, and to this union the following children were born: Esther, Ruth, Alma, Mabel, Ernst, Bennie, Clarence, Selmer, Palmer, Florence and Lowell. Mr. Larson and the members of his family are affiliated to the Lutheran church and are

earnestly interested in all its good works. Mr. Larson has served as township assessor and is now township constable; he served on the school board for fifteen years, during that period being clerk, and has been an auctioneer in that locality for a number of years. He has an interest in the Bear Park Mercantile Company.

PETER P. OLSON.

Peter P. Olson, a well-known merchant and scientific farmer of Anthony township, Norman county, was born in Worth county, Iowa, June 24, 1866, a son of Peter and Aaget (Olson) Olson, who were both natives of Norway. Along in the fifties the elder Olson, who was a farmer and teacher in his native land, came to America and located first in Wisconsin, then in Worth county, Iowa, where Peter P. was born, and later moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he died in 1866. Peter Olson, Sr., taught school and farmed after his coming to America until his death, after which his wife and children, feeling that the soil promised them a better future, joined a party of forty settlers whose destination was Norman county to which they traveled overland in horse drawn covered wagons. Soon after their arrival in Norman county in 1878 the eldest son, Ole, homesteaded in Anthony township, and there the family first located. While living on this farm, the mother's death occurred. To her and Peter Olson were born the following children: Gena, deceased; Ole, deceased, the eldest son who homesteaded the tract in Anthony township; Hans, Carrie and Peter P., the youngest child and the subject of this review.

Peter P. Olson, who is a native-born American, was twelve years of age when his mother and her family came overland to Norman county. He received a fairly good education in his early years, when the facilities for such at that time are considered, for he finished the common school and was for one year a student in the high school at Rushford, Minnesota. Having had ambitions to enter a business career, he began by acquiring some very valuable experience by working as a salesman in a general store at Ada, where he was thus engaged for thirteen years. In 1901 he decided to enter the mercantile business on his own account and opened up a general store, called the "Anthony Store" in Anthony township. He erected a fine business room, being the first one on the site, but his business expanded to such an extent that it has been necessary for him to make

additions to his store since. In addition to his mercantile interests, Mr. Olson finds further occupation on his small, modern farm of twenty acres in Anthony township, which he operates for experimental purposes.

Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Josie Dalvey on May 15, 1889. She was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, April 13, 1867, the daughter of Ole and Sesila Dalvey, who emigrated from Norway, the land of their nativity, in 1856, and settled in Fillmore county. The Lutheran church has in Mr. and Mrs. Olson, devoted members, and in the affairs of this denomination they take a deep and zealous interest. Mr. Olson's family were valuable acquisitions to the community, especially in its early days, for they helped to organize the East Marsh River Lutheran congregation when the homes of the settlers were thrown open for services. Later the family was largely instrumental in the organization of the public schools of the township.

LARS O. NESS.

Lars O. Ness, a substantial and energetic farmer, owner of a prime piece of land in Hegne township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years old, coming here with his widowed mother in 1879 and ever since has been living in Norman county. He was born on January 3, 1860, son of Ole and Marit (Ness) Ness, both born in Selbn, Norway, where the former died and where Lars O. Ness lived up to the time of his coming to the United States. There were two children in the family, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Ingeborg, who came to this country with her brother and married Hans Stennes; she is now dead.

Lars O. Ness was educated in the schools of his native Norway and at the age of nineteen accompanied his mother and sister to America, landing at New York, coming thence to Norman county in 1879. He bought forty acres of railroad land on which he erected the farm buildings and as he prospered in his farming operations he added to his holdings and is now the owner of eighty acres of prime land, which is well covered with natural timber and trees which Mr. Ness planted. Mrs. Marit Ness, mother of the subject of this sketch, is now living with her son, having reached the advanced age of ninety-one years.

In 1879 Lars O. Ness was united in marriage to Dorthea Moslath, a native of Norway and daughter of John Olson, who came to America in

1883 and located in Elk Point, Union county, South Dakota. Mr. Olson lived there for six years, at the end of which time he moved to Norman county and lived with Mr. Ness for a further period of six years, when he died. His wife was Sophia Hosta, who came to this country with her husband and died while living with Mr. Ness, at the great age of ninety-three years and four months. To Mr. and Mrs. Ness the following children have been born: Sophia, who became Mrs. John Paulson, living at Crookston, this state, and Albert Ness, who died in 1911, leaving three children, Lloyd, Alma and Dora, all of whom are living. John Paulson and wife are the parents of five children as follow: Paul, Louis, Mice, Earl and Sylvia, all of whom are living. The Ness family are members of the Lutheran church and are active in all its good works, as well as in all community affairs designed to promote the common good. Mr. Ness gives close attention to public affairs and was a helpful factor in bringing about the organization of Hegne township. John Olson and wife, parents of Mrs. Ness, were the parents of six children, those besides Mrs. Ness being Ole and John, who live in Norway; Ellies and Jonas, who both died in Norway, and Marit, who died at Elk Point, South Dakota.

WILLIAM H. RABE.

William H. Rabe, assessor of Green Meadow township and one of the best-known and most progressive farmers of Norman county, was born in the village of Nicollet, in Nicollet county, this state, May 11, 1877, son and only child of Charles and Henrietta (Carsten) Rabe, natives of the state of Illinois, who located at Nicollet in 1875. Charles Rabe was a merchant and was engaged in the mercantile and milling business with his brother August at Nicollet for eight or ten years, at the end of which time he disposed of his interests there and moved to the city of Chicago, where he spent the remainder of his life, being engaged there as a collector. His wife died when the subject of this sketch was but three weeks old.

Having been but about eight years of age when his father moved to Chicago, William H. Rabe received his schooling in the schools of that city and was graduated from a business college there in 1894. For two or three years thereafter he was engaged as a bookkeeper at branch 1 of the United States Brewing Company at Chicago, but wearied of the life of the city and began to long for the free life of the farm. "Back to the land" was

an appeal which carried with it a strong urge in his case and with a view to carrying out his ambition along this line he came up here into the Red River country to look about for a bit of farm land. So well pleased was he with the outlook here that he presently bought a quarter of a section of land in Green Meadow township, Norman county, and settled down as a real tiller of the soil. After his marriage in 1900 he established his home on that place and he and his family are now very comfortably and very pleasantly situated there, Mr. Rabe having many reasons for continuing to congratulate himself upon the decision which prompted him to leave the city. He has erected excellent buildings on his place and his farming is carried on in accordance with up-to-date methods. In addition to his general farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of pure-bred Shorthorn cattle and has done well in his operations. Ever since locating here Mr. Rabe has given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and for the past eleven years or more has been serving his township in the capacity of assessor.

On September 26, 1900, William H. Rabe was united in marriage to Emma Eichler, who was born in the township in which she is living, a daughter of August Eichler and wife, pioneers of that township, and to this union two children have been born, Verna and Raymond. Mr. and Mrs. Rabe are members of the Green Meadow German Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live and in which Mrs. Rabe has lived all her life, helpful in many ways in promoting movements designed to advance the common welfare of that neighborhood.

AMON OLSON.

Amon Olson, a prosperous and substantial farmer of Home Lake township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred acres of good land, nearly all of which is under a high state of cultivation, was born in Norway, April 20, 1849, a son of Ole and Cēna (Olson) Brakeat, both of whom were natives of Norway, and whose deaths occurred in this country. They had seven children, as follow: Knut, a resident of North Dakota; Amon, the subject of this review, and Ole, living in Washington state, and four girls, Mary and Kari, in North Dakota; Annie, in Washington state, and Hannah, who is dead.

Amon Olson attended the common schools of his native land, where he acquired an elementary education such as the time and place afforded. As he was just entering manhood, his parents decided to immigrate to America, where they thought they could better the material well-being of the whole family. Accordingly in 1866, the father and Knut, the eldest son, came to this country to select a location, and in the following year, 1867, the mother, the youngest child and Amon, who was then eighteen years of age, joined the father and elder brother. It was thirteen years after he had set foot on American soil that Amon Olson came to these parts. He had heard that land could be acquired cheaply in Norman county, and he removed here in 1880, settling on one hundred and sixty acres of school land in section 36, Home Lake township. Later he rounded out his holding by the purchase of an additional tract of forty acres in the same section. Here he began the improvement of his farm under pioneer conditions, for the land was in a wild state. Fortunately, however, there was a natural grove on the place, hence he did not find it necessary to set out an artificial one. Soon he erected a substantial log house and barn, which sufficed until recent years, when he replaced the original structures with larger, more substantial, commodious and convenient ones. It was in 1903 that he constructed his comfortable farm home, and his farm plant is now all in an excellent state of repair. He now carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture, which includes an excellent system of crop rotation, and also raises some cattle, generally feeding about twenty-five head. His farm plant is well stocked with modern farming machinery, a marked contrast with the conditions under which he worked when he used oxen for draught animals.

In February, 1883, Mr. Olson was united in marriage to Hannah Waller, who was born in Norway, June 4, 1847, a daughter of Ole Olson and Olea (Peterson) Waller, with whom she came to this country when she was twenty years of age. The father and mother died here on her husband's farm. By her first marriage, Mrs. Olson has two children, Fred and Clara. Her marriage to Mr. Olson resulted in the birth of seven children, as follow: Sam, living in Montana; Oscar, living here in Norman county; Sena, a resident of Montana; Alice, living in North Dakota; Helmer, living here in Norman county, and Tina and Hannah, both residents of North Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Flom, and they take a keen interest in the church work of this denomination. Mr. Olson takes a deep interest in the local, state and national phases of his party's activity. Mr. Olson is active in furthering the educational

progress of the locality, and rendered valuable service to this cause when he was a member of the local school board. Even though Mr. Olson has never been much given to seeking after public office, he takes a good citizen's interest in the betterment of his community in the educational, moral, religious and civil aspects of its existence.

H. O. ELLEFSON.

H. O. Ellefson, postmaster of the village of Syre, in Norman county, manager of the Thorpe elevator and a well-known merchant of that place, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was three years of age. He was born on June 21, 1869, son of Austin and Annie (Hanson) Ellefson, also natives of Norway, who came to the United States with their family in 1872 and settled on a homestead farm in Dunn county, Wisconsin, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the latter dying in 1887 and the former surviving until 1907. Austin Ellefson and his wife were members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were ten of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being Eleck, Hans, Nellie, Louis, Ole, Carl, Knute, Martin and Henry.

As noted above, H. O. Ellefson was but three years of age when he came with his parents to this country, the family settling in Wisconsin, and when two years of age he went to live with his sister, Nellie, wife of Nels Swanson, in St. Croix county, that same state, and in that county attended school until he was nineteen years of age, when, in 1888, he came up into this part of Minnesota, being attracted to the possibilities then opening in the valley of the Red River, and began farming in the vicinity of Gary, in Norman county. After his marriage he settled on a farm in Waukon township and was there engaged in farming until after the death of his first wife in 1899. Two years later, in 1901, Mr. Ellefson became engaged as a grain buyer in the Thorpe elevator at Syre and eighteen months later was transferred by the Thorpes to their elevator at Flaming and for two years and a half was engaged as their buyer there. The company then put him in charge of their elevator at Gary and a year later transferred him to their elevator at Leeds, North Dakota, where he remained for eighteen months, at the end of which time, in 1908, the company sent

him back to Syre and he ever since has been the manager of their elevator at that place, one of the best-known grain men in Norman county. Upon returning to Syre in 1908 Mr. Ellefson became interested, in association with B. L. Bjerckness, in a general store in that village and has ever since been manager of the same, looking after the affairs of the store in addition to his managerial connection with the elevator. A year after he located at Syre he was appointed postmaster of the village, in 1909, and has ever since occupied that position. Mr. Ellefson has ever taken a good citizen's interest in political affairs and for three years during his residence on the farm in Waukon township served as assessor of that township.

Mr. Ellefson has been twice married. His first wife, who was Martha Knudson, died in 1899, leaving five children, Annie, Ovedia, Clara, Mabel and Jennie, and he later married Annie Hermanson. Mr. and Mrs. Ellefson are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take an earnest interest in church work, Mr. Ellefson being treasurer of the local congregation at Syre.

CARL O. JENSEN.

Carl O. Jensen, owner of a compact and well-kept farm in section 9, Fossum township, Norman county, former chairman of the township board, and presently a member of the local school board, is a native son of Norman county, born on his father's homestead on September 18, 1877, a son of John and Emilia (Larson) Jensen, well-known residents of the township.

John Jensen, father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway in 1840, a son of Jens Jorgen and Elsie Katherina (Olson) Knutson, who spent all their lives in that country, where they were of the farming class. John Jensen spent sixteen months as a sailor and owing to an outbreak of the yellow fever while in Havana, the ship returned to Norway and some time later he and his brother, Jens, immigrated to America, first stopping at Leland, Illinois, and then moving into the state of Minnesota, settling in Rice county, where he remained until 1872. He then came to Norman county and took a homestead claim, the farm on which his son Carl was born. In another part of this volume a further and more extended account of the life of John Jensen is given, and to that review the reader is referred.

Carl O. Jensen was educated in the public schools of Norman county, later attending Park Region College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He was reared on his father's homestead and worked on the farm, a valuable aid to

the task of developing and improving the home place. Later, he went to work in the elevator at Twin Valley, for A. Durling, and spent two years in that place. He then rented his father's homestead place and worked the same very successfully for three years, at the end of which time he bought one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in the northwest quarter of section 9, in Fossum township, and here he has lived ever since engaged in general farming and is recognized as one of the progressive farmers of the district. In 1912 he erected a number of fine buildings on the place, which add considerably to its value, and in 1914 he made a further addition to his holding by the purchase of eighty acres of hay land in section 8. He also raises a good grade of stock, for which he finds a ready market.

In the fall of 1905 Carl O. Jensen was united in marriage to Regena Korsgaden, born in Norman county, a daughter of Lars Korsgaden and wife. To Mr. and Mrs. Jensen five children have been born, Kenneth Raymond Julener, Sanford Milton, Arnold Reuben, and Oris Melvin and Helen Birdie (twins), all of whom are living. The Jensen family are members of the Lutheran church at East Wild Rice and are warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Jensen has served on the township board for several years, being chairman for the past two years, and is also a member of the local school board, on which he has been acting for nine years. He was formerly road overseer, and in many other ways he has given of his time to the public interest, ever ready to assist all projects calculated to advance the public welfare. Mr. Jensen helped to organize the Faith Milling Company at Faith, Minnesota, and is a stockholder in the same.

CHARLES W. CANNING.

Charles W. Canning, one of the most substantial and progressive farmers of the Hendrum neighborhood in Hendrum township, Norman county, and the proprietor of a fine farm and a comfortable home there, is a native of the Emerald Isle, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty years of age. He was born in Ireland on August 15, 1865, a son of Robert and Mary (Wilson) Canning, both of whom also were born in Ireland. Reared in his native land, he received excellent educational advantages there and remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when he came to this country, landing at Philadelphia. Upon his arrival here Mr. Canning secured employment in Philadelphia and for a year was

thus engaged in that city. He then went to Pittsburgh and after a sometime stay there decided to come up into the Red River country and put in his lot with the people of this valley. Upon his arrival here Mr. Canning secured a tract of land in section 25 of Hendrum township, Norman county, and there established his home. He has been successful in his operations and now is the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and thirty acres, which he has improved in up-to-date fashion. The farm is ideally situated along the banks of the Red river, and everything is kept up in shipshape fashion, the general farm plant being recognized as one of the best in that neighborhood. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Canning engages somewhat extensively in the raising of a good grade of live stock and has on his place about twenty head of horses and more than forty head of cattle. The farm house is modern and up-to-date in its appointments and the farm buildings are in keeping with the same. Not only is Mr. Canning a good farmer, but he gives his attention to the general business affairs of the community.

On January 18, 1893, Charles W. Canning was united in marriage to Mary Canning, who also was born in Ireland, and to this union has been born one child, a son, Robert H. M. Canning, who was born in Norman county on July 15, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Canning are members of the Presbyterian church at Hendrum and take a proper interest in church affairs, as well as in other good works and in the general social activities of the community in which they live. Mr. Canning is a Democrat and is interested in political affairs, but has not been a seeker after public office. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the local lodges of the Independent Order of Foresters at Hendrum and belongs to the Masonic order and the Shriners, and takes a proper interest in the affairs of the same.

THE ULVEN FAMILY.

Among those foreign-born citizens residing in Clay county, who have materially contributed to the well-being of the farming industry as well as to the general uplift of the community at large, the Ulven family, represented in the county since 1880, deserves recognition at the hands of the biographer. In the first instance the family tree in Minnesota counts from Jens Ulven and his wife, Rande Hanson, who left Norway in 1880 and came directly to Lake Park, Minnesota, immediately thereafter proceeding to Highland Grove township, Clay county, and there both Jens and Rande Ulven spent the

remainder of their lives, honored and respected pioneers. In January, 1883, Jens Ulven acquired eighty acres of homestead land in section 26, Highland Grove township, and he at once began the task of breaking and improving the tract, setting out a grove and erecting buildings, and on this place he carried on general farming for the remainder of his active life. Jens Ulven and wife were the parents of the following children: Martha, Andrew, Hans J., Juel, Bernt J. and Mary, and four others who died young. The parents were earnest members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and active in all community good works.

Juel Ulven, son of Jens and Rande Ulven, was born in Norway on December 15, 1872, and came to this country with his parents in 1880. He was educated in the schools of Clay county and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the labors of the place. Later, he and his brothers bought land in partnership and continued to live on the home place until 1905, having accumulated by that time seven hundred acres of land, and in the latter year they divided the land between them. Since that time Juel Ulven has been living on his present place, which contains one hundred and sixty acres of choice land on which he carries on general farming and raises a fine strain of full-blooded Yorkshire hogs. When he took over the farm it was in a raw state and he has since made many substantial improvements and erected some modern buildings. Mr. Ulven was married in 1905 to Lena Carlson, born in Highland Grove township, a daughter of John E. Carlson, further reference to whom is made in another part of this volume. Juel Ulven and his wife are members of the Lutheran Free (Norwegian) church at Dale and are earnest supporters of all its good works.

Andrew Ulven was born on October 9, 1862, in Norway and came to America with his parents, Jens and Rande Ulven, in 1880, and has since lived in Highland Grove township, Clay county. He is now the owner of two hundred acres of prime land, given over to the cultivation of general agricultural produce and also breeds Holstein cattle, doing very well in his farming operations. In 1896 Andrew Ulven was united in marriage to Anna Halvorson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Nels Halvorson and wife. To this union the following children were born: Jens (deceased), Melvin, Raymond, Clara, Albert, Anna, Kenneth and Alice. The family are members of Norwegian Lutheran Free church and liberal supporters of the same. Mr. Ulven takes a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs and has been a member of the township board for the past two years, and for some years has served on the board of the Hawley Creamery Company.

Hans J. Ulven was born in Norway in 1869 and at the age of eleven came with his parents to this country. He is the proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land in Highland Grove township and is actively engaged in general farming, being regarded as one of the substantial farmers of the township. Like his brother, Andrew, Hans J. Ulven also takes considerable interest in public affairs and has been serving as township clerk since 1898 up to the present time, and in other ways he has given of his time and energy to the well-being of the community in which he resides.

Bernt J. Ulven also was born in Norway, his birth occurring on April 16, 1874, and at the age of six years he came to this country with his parents and the other members of the family. Ever since he has been living in Highland Grove township, where he was educated in the public schools. Up to 1905, in conjunction with his brothers, he assisted in operating the extensive tract of land which they then held in partnership. Bernt J. Ulven remained on his father's homestead and here he has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which includes the original eighty acres entered by his father, and on this place Mr. Ulven has lived ever since. He has erected all the present buildings, with the exception of the dwelling house. In 1905 Mr. Ulven was married to Mary Johnson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Joe and Breta (Olafson) Johnson, who came to America about 1881, the former of whom is deceased and the latter is now living at Hitterdal. One child, Jerome, was born to this union. In 1911 Mr. Ulven married Hannah Carlson, born in Sweden, a daughter of Carl Johnson and wife, the latter of whom died in Sweden and Mr. Johnson now lives in North Dakota. He came to America in 1903, but Mrs. Ulven did not come for some time later. By his second marriage Mr. Ulven is the father of two children, Agnes and Ragna. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

IVER SEMLINGE.

Iver Semlinge, a substantial farmer of Hendrum township, Norman county, was born in Norway, September 7, 1851, the son of Ole and Marit (Bakken) Semlinge, both natives of Norway, the former of whom receives further mention in the sketch of C. K. Semling, one of the editors of this history, presented elsewhere in this volume.

Iver Semlinge, being sixteen years old when he came to America with his parents in 1867, attended the common schools in Norway, this consti-

IVIE SEHLINGE AND FAMILY.



tuting the whole of his schooling. His parents first located in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and Iver obtained employment as a farm hand on farms in Houston and Fillmore counties during his stay of eleven years in those parts. He finally decided, when he was twenty-seven years old, to cast his lot with the settlers of Norman county, which had only recently been opened up for settlement; and, accompanied only by his oldest brother, Jacob, drove a mule team through to that county and at once made his home with his brother-in-law, O. T. Nelson, who then owned the farm on which Mr. Semlinge now resides in Hendrum township. After some years of fruitful industry, Mr. Semlinge added to his holdings and at present owns four hundred acres of good farm land. The purchase of the land was only the first step in his prosperity, for much of the land needed clearing; but after the ground was placed under cultivation the owner began adding improvements and now has excellent farm buildings.

On April 13, 1881, Iver Semlinge married Anna Marie Tommerdahl, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Ole N. and Ellen (Maria) Tommerdahl, the former of whom was born in Norway, the son of Nels Tommerdahl, and was there reared to manhood. There he met and married the mother of Mrs. Iver Semlinge. After being a widower for some years after the death of his first wife, he married Mrs. Ellen Ellingson, and the two came to America in 1864, bringing the family. After remaining in Houston county, Minnesota, until 1877, they drove overland in a covered wagon to Norman county in the same party with O. J. Hagen, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Tommerdahl took three hundred and twenty acres in Hendrum township, presumably half homestead and half pre-emption, and soon set about to improve the place, residing there until his death.

Ole N. Tommerdahl was a very active member of the community in which he lived and helped to organize Hendrum township, the name of which was suggested by him. He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Pontoppidan Lutheran church. By his first wife, Mr. Tommerdahl was the father of three children: Nels and Jens, who are dead, and Anna M., the wife of Iver Semlinge; and by his second wife, Ellen Ellingson, six children, namely: Emma and Anton, who are dead; Oscar, Emma, Ida and Minnie. His second wife, Ellen Ellingson, was first married to John Rustvold, and one child, Nettie, now Mrs. Thom Charlson, of Ada, Minnesota, was born to that union. After the death of Mr. Tommerdahl his widow and family remained on the farm, where they now live.

To Mr. and Mrs. Iver Semlinge have been born thirteen children, all of whom are living but one, namely: Oliver, deceased; Oline, Martin Olai, Anne Matilda, Joseph, Ole, Hannah Emilie, Iver Kornelius, Lydia, Jens Edwin, Marit, Arnold Norman and Sarah Elvie. Mr. Semlinge and family are zealous adherents to the Lutheran faith, being members of the Pontoppidan church, which Mr. Semlinge helped to organize. He has been interested deeply in the upbuilding and well-being of the community, having helped to organize the creamery company, the Farmers Elevator Company and the State Bank of Hendrum.

CARL N. SCHULSTAD.

Carl N. Schulstad, a well-known and prosperous farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he owns a fine farm and operates in all three hundred and seventy-four acres with marked success, a man interested in the civil and local co-operative business agencies of the community in which he has lived for many years, was born in Dunn county, Wisconsin, July 18, 1874, a son of Christian and Mary (Martinson) Schulstad, the former of whom is a native of Norway and the latter of LaCrosse, Wisconsin.

The maternal grandparents of the subject of this sketch were Iver and Carrie Martinson, who were among the first settlers of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, but in June, 1879, they drove overland to Norman county, Minnesota, where Iver Martinson homesteaded a quarter section in Waukon township, where he lived the rest of his life. His wife, the mother of Mary (Martinson) Schulstad, died at LaCrosse. Carl N. Schulstad's paternal grandparents, Nels and Pernele (Hunsager) Bredeson, were both natives of Norway, from which they came to this country and settled first on a homestead in Dunn county, Wisconsin, in 1868. After they had remained there for seventeen years, they loaded their household effects and a few farming implements into a covered wagon and drove through to Norman county, Minnesota, where they heard that excellent farming land could be easily acquired. As soon as they arrived here, Nels Bredeson filed a claim on some land in Waukon township, in the same section where his grandson, Carl N. Schulstad, now lives.

Christian Schulstad, the father of the subject of this review, was reared to manhood in Norway, the land of his nativity, and in the same year that his parents came to America, he decided to follow in their footsteps. He

joined them in Dunn county, Wisconsin, and in 1879, one year before his parents left the place of their first settlement in Wisconsin, he came to Norman county, Minnesota, and homesteaded the one hundred and sixty acres where his son, Carl, now lives, in Waukon township. Here he remained until his death, which occurred on the home place, December 26, 1910. His widow now makes her home in Twin Valley. He was a very active man in the early years of Waukon township, being one of the important landowners. To his original homestead, he added one hundred and thirty-five acres in section 35, Waukon township, and he developed his holding by bringing it up to a high state of cultivation and by erecting excellent farm buildings, including a comfortable farm home. When the population of Waukon township reached the requisite number, he helped to organize the township into a civil division of the county, and he served the community as township supervisor for some years. Being highly solicitous for the educational advancement of the locality, he organized the local school district and was a member of the first board, which position he held for many years. The co-operative business enterprises of the community were also objects of his interest, for he helped to organize the Farmers Elevator at Gary, the creamery at Waukon and the Waukon Mercantile Company, in all of which he was very active until his death. Being very anxious that the Lutheran church, a denomination of which he was a devoted member, be represented in the settlement, he was a leading spirit in the organization of the St. Peter Lutheran church in Strand township, of which church society he was a trustee during the last eighteen years of his life, dying in office. He and wife were the parents of the following children: Carl N., the subject of this review; Peter E., Einar. Ingevoid and Clara Matilda, all of whom are still living.

Coming to Norman county when he was only five years of age, Carl N. Schulstad acquired his elementary education in the local public schools and later he entered a private school at Hendrum, where he pursued his studies for one year. Wishing to get a more advanced education, he attended Park Region College at Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and he spent four years in North Dakota, where he worked as a farm hand, at the end of which period he returned to Norman county, where he worked for one year as a grain buyer for the Monarch Elevator Company at Gary. He then began farming operations on his own account and purchased a tract of land which he immediately began to cultivate and improve, and after the death of his father, he took over the operation of the home place. At the present time he farms three hundred and seventy-four acres, carrying on an excellent

type of diversified agriculture. In addition to his farm, he owns a house and lot in Twin Valley, Minnesota.

On June 20, 1907, Mr. Schulstad married Hansens Lystre, who was born at Grand Meadow, Mower county, Minnesota, November 8, 1887, a daughter of Hans and Gunild Lystre. To this union have been born six children: Gladys Matilda, Christian Herbert, Harvey Cyrus, Ruth Mildred, Lilie Evylin and Kenneth Norman. Mr. and Mrs. Schulstad are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they are rearing their children in the same faith. For nine consecutive years the former has been clerk for the local school district, and is still in office. Especially is he interested in the co-operative distributing agencies of this section of the Waukon Mercantile Company. He is also interested in the creamery at the latter place. In politics, Mr. Schulstad is a Republican, taking a proper interest in the activities of his party.

JOHN ERICKSON.

A retired business man of Moorhead, Clay county, who has contributed much to the development of this section of the Red River Valley, is John Erickson, who during his active years has owned about fifteen thousand acres of land in Clay and adjoining counties and now owns fourteen hundred acres, the builder of the Jay Cooke House, a famous hotel of Moorhead, which was destroyed by fire some years ago, the first clerk of the Clay county court, mayor of Moorhead for three terms, and who is now finding surcease from his many years of active life in the calm of retirement. He was born in Sweden, November 26, 1840, a son of Erick and Marie (Peterson) Juronson, the former of whom was a small farmer of Sweden, born in 1813 and died in 1900 at the age of eighty-seven years, never having come to America. The mother was born in 1820 and died in 1912 at the advanced age of ninety-two years on the old home place, back in her native land. They were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the oldest; the others being: Gustav, who died at the age of twenty-two; John, whose death occurred here in America at the age of twenty-three years; Mary, the wife of John Swanson, of Baker, Clay county; Tilda, who married James Peterson and lives at Sabin, Clay county; Nels, a farmer who owns land in Sweden, and John, the subject of this review.

Reared on the home farm back in Sweden, where his father barely eked out a living on his small holding, John Erickson in his early years learned

what it meant to work hard for his livelihood. The habits of industry and thrift which he acquired in that period were invaluable to him when he began his career in this country, where he achieved a remarkable success. A striking thing about Mr. Erickson's life is that he has achieved this success since he was thirty-one years of age. It was in April, 1870, that he first breathed the air of America, with no capital save excellent habits of industry and thrift, rugged health, an unshakable determination to be successful and an indomitable will. He wandered about the first year of his life in America and did not come to Clay county until 1871, where he secured such employment as he could find in the frontier stores and in wood chopping during the first winter. The country was then new and many settlers were coming in, hence he was seized with the idea of establishing a hotel for the accomodation of the incoming homesteaders. In April, 1872, he erected his hotel, which was a small tent affair and he continued this enterprise until 1874, in which year he started a general merchandise store, a valuable aid to the pioneers of that day, because bases of supplies were very few and far between in those days. He continued the merchandising business until 1881, when he decided to enter the hotel business on a large scale, erecting the Jay Cooke House at the cost of eighty thousand dollars on the site of the present Comstock hotel. He operated the large hotel until 1911, in which year it was completely destroyed by fire. Since that time he has made no further ventures in the hotel business. In addition to his large hotel and merchandising business, Mr. Erickson has also had large farming interests. There have been times when he has farmed as much as three thousand acres of land at one time, and all in all he has owned fifteen thousand acres of farm land in Cass county, North Dakota, Ottertail county, Minnesota, and mostly in Clay county.

During his years of active life, Mr. Erickson was very active in politics, being prominently connected with the Democratic party, in the councils of which his voice was well known in the city, county and state phases of its activity. He was the first clerk of the Clay county court and was later elected mayor of Moorhead three times. He took a further important part in the development of the city as a member of the common council, which position he held for twenty-one years. In 1905, when he was sixty-five years of age, Mr. Erickson gave up politics, business and farming and retired from active pursuits to spend the evening of his life in quietude after his many years of arduous labor. He still, however, owns fourteen hundred acres of land, on which he formerly carried on general farming in Wadena and Clay counties, but he now leaves the operation of the farm

to other hands. He also retains stock in some of the important financial institutions of the county. During his years of active business life, he owned and operated a large brewery here in Moorhead, but his retirement from business caused him to relinquish his interests in that enterprise.

On October 22, 1872, Mr. Erickson was united in marriage to Anna Larson, who was born in Sweden, August 16, 1852, who came with her parents to America when she was only three years of age. The family settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where Mrs. Erickson was reared to womanhood. Her death occurred in Moorhead, October 16, 1890. By her Mr. Erickson is the father of five children, as follow: Gust, residing in Reno, Nevada; Carolina, married and living in Scobey, Montana; Edward, a resident of Reno, Nevada; Albert, who lives here and is a candy manufacturer, and May, a teacher in the Breckenridge schools, who is a graduate of the State Normal school here and has taught in this state for seven years. Since his retirement, Mr. Erickson has not given up entirely his interest in the public welfare, for whenever any worthy movement is started in the city for the common social, educational and moral betterment, it is assured of his unstinted support.

GUSTAV KYLLANDER.

Gustav Kyllander, for many years identified with the farming industry either as an instructor or as a practical farmer, now living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of the United States since 1865, having come to this country when he was thirty-one years old. He was born in Westergotland, Sweden, October 6, 1834, a son of Pehr and Marie Elizabeth (Swenson) Kyllander, both also natives of Sweden and in which country they spent their last days. During his active life Pehr Kyllander was a farmer. He and his wife were the parents of one child, Gustav Kyllander, the subject of this sketch, whose mother died when he was but one year old.

Gustav Kyllander was educated in the schools of Sweden and took a course in the gymnasium and took the examination at Upsala University, later attending the Agricultural College at Ultuna, Sweden, where he spent two years, and from which institution he was graduated. Thus prepared, he then taught an agricultural school at Halland, Sweden, later going to an uncle to gain some practical experience on the farm. Subsequently, he taught agriculture at Smoland for a time.

On August 23, 1865, Mr. Kyllander landed at New York City, going thence to Virginia for one year, at the end of which time he came to Goodhue and Nicollet counties, Minnesota, and taught school in each of these counties and also taught in Sibley county. While in Nicollet county he bought school land, but did not farm there. In June, 1882, he arrived in Polk county with a relative, driving from Gibbon, Sibley county. There were three families and three wagons, much cattle, horses and oxen. In the following month he located on the farm where he has since lived, pre-empting one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he cleared of brush and on which he erected some fine buildings. Later, he added another quarter section by purchase, which he has since given to his sons. Mr. Kyllander taught school in Bear Park township for five or six terms, being the first school teacher in district No. 57, which he helped to organize; he also taught in district No. 56. He assisted in the organization of St. John's Swedish church in Sundahl township. Always displaying a close interest in public affairs, he served as township clerk for a period and served in the office of justice of the peace for fourteen years.

On September 17, 1870, Gustav Kyllander was united in marriage to Maria Olson, born in Dalen, Sweden, a daughter of Ole Olson and wife, natives also of that country. To this union the following children were born: Gustav A., born August 23, 1871, farms the old home place; Anna, April 14, 1873, married Gustav Groberg; Carl O., February 11, 1875, deceased, and Clara, February 13, 1877, died when eight days old.

MARTIN J. KVIDT

Martin J. Kvidt, one of Norman county's well-known and substantial farmers and the proprietor of a well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 6 of Flom township, where he has a very pleasant home, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, a resident of Norman county since the days of his childhood, his parents having been pioneers of this part of the Red River country. He was born on a farm in Houston county on May 18, 1870, son of John E. and Margareta (Gjertsdatter) Kvidt, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who became pioneers of Norman county and are still living here, the former now in the eighty-ninth year of his age and the latter in the eighty-sixth year of her age.

John E. Kvidt was married in Norway and came to the United States

when he was thirty-eight years of age. After a sometime residence in Houston county, this state, he came with his family up into the Red River valley, in 1878, and homesteaded a quarter of a section of partly wooded land in section 6 of what later came to be organized as Flom township, Norman county, and there established his home, becoming one of the real pioneers of that part of the county. For the first ten years of his residence there Mr. Kvidt farmed with oxen and endured the various privations to which the early settlers of the new country were subjected. As time passed and he got his place under cultivation he made substantial improvements on his place and it was not long until he came to be regarded as one of the well-to-do farmers of that section. On that place he and his wife still make their home, though owning now but thirty-five acres, the balance of the homestead having been sold to their son Gjert, when they retired from the active labors of the farm. They have five children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the last-born, the others being as follow: Ingebret, who is married and is living on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 8 of Flom township; Gjert, unmarried, who now owns and manages the old home place; Jens, who is married and is living on a two-hundred-acre farm in section 12 of Flom township, and Mrs. Annie Albertson, who lives in section 9 of that same township.

Martin J. Kvidt was eight years of age when he came with his parents into Norman county in 1878 and his schooling was completed in the pioneer schools of his home neighborhood. From the days of his boyhood he was a valuable aid in the labors of developing and improving the home place and early became a skilled farmer, continuing farming to this day. In 1890 he bought a quarter of a section of partly improved land in section 6 of Flom township, established his home there and has since made his home there. When he came into possession of the place it had on it a set of old log buildings and he has since replaced these with substantial modern buildings and has made other up-to-date improvements. He also has brought the place up to an excellent state of cultivation and has done well in his general farming operations. In addition to his grain farming he has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has a fine herd of red-polled cattle.

On June 19, 1910, in the Wild Rice church, not far from his home, Martin J. Kvidt was united in marriage to Annie Lovold, who was born on March 4, 1880, in Highland Grove township, Clay county, this state, a daughter of Severt and Seneya (Winjum) Lovold, pioneers of that township, who are still living on the farm they homesteaded in section 12 back

in the days of the early settlement of that part of the county, but which homestead place is now owned by their daughter, Mrs. Tom Suprey, of Strandquist, in Marshall county. Mrs. Kvidt has four brothers and three sisters. Mr. and Mrs. Kvidt have a very pleasant home and take a proper interest in the general social affairs of the community in which they live. They are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and take a warm interest in the various beneficences of the same. Mr. Kvidt helped by his contributions in the organization of that church and for many years has been janitor of the church building. He has ever given a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, but has not been included in the office-seeking class.

ALBERT GARTLAND.

Albert Gartland, one of the well-remembered citizens of the past generation, a farmer during the latter years of his life, since he settled in Norman county, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in that country on March 15, 1856, a son of Ditlev and Bergita Gartland, also natives of Norway, where they were farming people, and who lived and died in their native land.

Albert Gartland was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labors of improving and developing the home place. When about twenty-four years of age he immigrated to the United States, going on arrival to Lanesboro, Minnesota, and later to Minneapolis, where he worked for others part of the time and later operated a meat market on his own account, with considerable success. In 1882 he moved to Norman county and in that year located on the farm on which his widow still resides. He bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land, which he immediately cultivated and set out to general farming, in which he was engaged for the remainder of his life. On this holding he erected some buildings, others now on the place having been put up by his family since his death, which occurred on September 2, 1897.

Albert Gartland was a man of considerable public spirit and was identified with many useful projects during his residence in Norman county. For some years he served as township supervisor and as township assessor, giving to the duties of these important positions his unremitting attention. He was no less energetic and earnest in matters appertaining to church affairs, and helped to organize the Norman Lutheran church, in which he was active for

many years, serving as secretary to the congregation for some time. He was one of the promoters of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and was a member of the board of directors of that company from the date of organization to the time of his death, and in many other ways gave evidence of his desire to assist public movements having for their object the betterment of the community at large.

In 1887 Albert Gartland was united in marriage to Marie B. Lee, born in Norway and who came to this country with her parents when a little girl three years of age. While still single she and a brother made the trip to Norman county by team and was married in this county. Albert Gartland and wife were the parents of the following children: Bertha Theresa, at home; Svart Lee, manager of the Bear Park Mercantile Company; Dwight, Ada Marie, who married Elias Stennes, of Hegne township; Clarence Emery, at home; Olga Dortha, who died at the age of two years, and Arthur. Dwight Gartland worked for two years at the Bejon grain elevator as grain buyer; he later took a business course at the Southern Minnesota University and worked as assistant cashier in the German American Bank at Bejon for two years. Clarence Gartland has taken a course at the Interstate Business College, at Fargo, North Dakota. Arthur Gartland is working out.

Svart Lee Gartland, the second eldest of the above children, was born on the home farm, and was educated in the public schools of Norman county. He learned the carpenter trade, at which he worked up to taking over the management of the Bear Park Mercantile Company, which concern has been making steady progress under his guidance.

LARS J. STENSGAARD.

One of the sturdy pioneer farmers of Lake Ida township, Norman county, who has helped develop his community from wild prairie land into well improved and highly productive farms, is Lars J. Stensgaard, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of eighty acres in the township. He was born in Norway on May 6, 1849, and is the son of John L. and Maria (Johnson) Stensgaard, both of whom also were natives of Norway.

John L. Stensgaard came with his family to America in 1853, arriving here in August of that year, locating first at Koshkonong Prairie, Wisconsin, where they remained for a year and a half after which they removed to Fillmore county, Minnesota, making the trip overland by ox-

team and covered wagon. After arriving in Minnesota, they homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of government land, paying two hundred dollars for the land, and on this place John L. Stensgaard and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. He was one of the pioneers of Fillmore county, and helped to organize his township, Norway, and was prominent and active in the social and civic development of his community, assisting in the establishment of the first church and school house in his neighborhood. The family were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church. He and his wife were the parents of eight children: Bertha Maria, Johanna, Clara, Karen, Louisa, Martha, Inga and Lars J., all of whom are still living with the exception of Karen and Louisa.

Lars J. Stensgaard received his education in the rural schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, and in the summer seasons assisted his father in the work of developing and improving his land. In 1871 he left his father's farm and came to Becker county, Minnesota, with an ox-team and covered wagon, there being eleven covered wagons in the party, and settled on school land in that county within two and one-half miles of Lake Park, remaining on his farm for a period of seven years, during which time he improved the tract to a considerable degree. In 1877, in company with a number of other settlers, he came to Norman county, the entire number of pioneers making the trip overland by ox-team. After arriving in Norman county, Mr. Stensgaard homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in Strand township, and remained on this farm five years, after which he removed to another farm in the same township, where he lived until 1893, when he came to Lake Ida township, where he has since resided. At one time he owned four hundred acres of land in the township, but in 1898 he moved to his present farm of eighty acres, and here he has surrounded himself with many improvements in the way of good buildings, and also planted a fine grove of trees, which makes his farm one of the attractive places of the township. He has always been engaged in general farming and stock raising, and ranks among the prosperous and substantial farmers of his community.

In 1873 Mr. Stensgaard was married to Maren Christopherson, a native of Norway, the daughter of Amund Christopherson, and to this union ten children have been born, all of whom are living: Alfred, Johan, Karl, Oscar, Louise, Johannah, Adolph, Emma and Nora, twins, and Ella. The family are all members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take an active interest.

Mr. Stensgaard has always taken a prominent and active part in the social, religious and civic affairs of his township, and was among those who organized the first church of his community, called St. Peter's Synod church. While living in Strand township, this county, he helped organize the township, and served as the second assessor of that township, holding that important office for a period of thirteen years.

ERICK OLSON SWAVE.

Erick Olson Swave, well-known farmer, living in Bear Park township, is another citizen of Norwegian birth who has settled in this country, and has met with no small share of success in his agricultural operations since he arrived in Norman county thirty-six years ago. He was born in Norway on January 16, 1849, a son of Ole Erickson and Marit (Olson) Swave, both of whom also were born in Norway and spent all their lives in that country, during their active years engaged in farming. They were the parents of five children, named as follow: Ane, Erick, Sigrid, Ingeborg, deceased, and Ole.

Erick Olson Swave was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's place, where he grew to manhood and assisted on the home farm in developing and improving the same. In 1881, at the age of thirty-two years, he immigrated to this country and on arriving here came on directly to Norman county and took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Bear Park township, and has been living on that place ever since. He immediately set to work to prepare the tract for the reception of crops and presently had things going in good shape and he has ever since been doing very well. He carried out many substantial improvements on his holding, including the erection of outbuildings, and he is generally regarded as one of the prosperous farmers of the community in which he resides.

In 1874 Erick O. Swave was united in marriage to Karen Quame, born in Norway, a daughter of Christopher Quame and wife, and to this union the following children were born: Mary, May, John (deceased), Jeanette (deceased), Caroline, Jeanette, Ole, Clara, Alice, Emma, Alfred (deceased), and Anna. Mr. Swave and the members of his family are affiliated with the Ness Lutheran church, which he helped to organize, and in the affairs of which he still continues to take an active interest. Mr. Swave always has given a good citizen's attention to community interests and was one of

the organizers of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and is also interested in the Sundahl Creamery, and in many other ways he has from the very beginning of his residence in the township, shown a practical desire to assist all movements designed to improve local conditions along legitimate lines.

SEVERIN A. HOSETH.

Severin A. Hoseth, a substantial and progressive farmer and stock man, former member of the Fossum township board and president of the Faith Milling Company, is a native son of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county, this state, February 21, 1870, a son of Andres and Marit (Kindseth) Hoseth, both of whom were born in Norway, where they were farming people.

About 1866, Andres Hoseth, who had married some years previously, immigrated to America from Norway and located in Goodhue county, this state, and bought a tract of land on which he immediately started farming operations and thus continued to the end of his life. He was recognized as a skillful and energetic farmer, who worked his land to advantage, getting all possible results from the soil. Mr. Hoseth died in 1880 and his widow survived until 1912, in which year her death occurred. They were the parents of eight children as follow: Karen Ann, deceased; Peter Magnus, deceased; Severin A., the subject of this sketch; Andres; Martine, who died young; Martin, who also died young, and Martin and Andrew.. These parents were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were brought up in the same faith.

Severin A. Hoseth was educated in the public schools of Goodhue county and there learned the trade of a carpenter, at which occupation and on farms he worked until 1899. In the latter year he came to Norman county, having previously, in 1896, purchased one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in section 11, Fossum township. The tract, however, was without any improvements and he immediately set to work to get the place in condition and cleared one hundred acres of timber, in addition to which he erected substantial buildings and now has one of the best improved places in that section of the township. He is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and from the very beginning of his operations has met with a substantial measure of success.

In 1898 Severin A. Hoseth was united in marriage to Helena Ovalson, born in Goodhue county, this state, a daughter of Hans Ovalson and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Hoseth are the parents of four children, namely: Arnold Martinus, Hilma Selmina, Sander Hilfred and Myrtle Edna, all of whom are now living. The Hoseth family are members of the Lutheran church and are warm supporters of all its good works. Mr. Hoseth has ever given much time and attention to public affairs and for six years, from 1911 to 1917, he served as a member of the township board. He helped to organize the Faith Milling Company and has been its vice-president and president since the commencement of the company's milling operations. He also assisted in the work of organizing the Faith Creamery Company and in other ways has given of his time and energy to promote all movements calculated to advance the community welfare.

OLE I. OFSTEDAL.

Ole I. Ofstedal, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a fine farm of two hundred acres of prime land, living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was five years old. He was born in Norway, December 15, 1858, a son of Iver J. and Gertrude (Bersley) Ofstedal, also natives of Norway.

Iver J. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of his native land, where he was brought up to the life of a farmer. In 1863 he and the members of his family immigrated to America, and on arriving in this country came on out to Minnesota and located in Freeborn county, where he has been living ever since. He took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation and has prospered in all his farming operations, being generally regarded as one of the old school of husbandmen who made the most of their opportunities. He put up a number of good outbuildings and effected many improvements of a valuable character. His wife died on the place which Mr. Ofstedal homesteaded, and he is still living on the farm. They were the parents of the following children: Johannes, Ole L., Agate, Iver, Ingebright and Einar, all of whom are living.

Ole I. Ofstedal was educated in the schools of Freeborn county and was reared on his father's farm, where he learned the rudiments of agricultural labor. In 1880, at the age of twenty-one he moved to near Fertile, Polk county, where he lived for a short time. He then pre-empted a tract of

land containing one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, which he has since developed and improved and to which he has added and is now the owner of three hundred twenty acres of choice land, on which he has carried out a number of valuable improvements and is engaged in general farming. In addition to his farming operations he is also engaged in the raising of Shorthorn cattle, of which he breeds an excellent strain. He has also carried on threshing since he was sixteen years old, and with the exception of three years has been actively employed at that branch of agricultural labor, now having a first-class outfit, which he operates with considerable skill, being thus engaged for about twenty years.

In 1883 Ole I. Ofstedal was united in marriage to Caroline Ofstedal, who was born in Olmsted county, this state, a daughter of Johaness Ofstedal, and to this union the following children were born: Ida, Cora, Ella, Anna, Johaness, William, Nora (deceased), Dina, Mabel, Benhart (deceased), Benhart, Alice, and Palmer. The mother of these children died on March 30, 1917. Mr. Ofstedal is a member of the Sundahl Lutheran church, which he helped to organize, and with which congregation he and the members of his family have been identified for several years. He has always taken a good citizen's part in the general welfare of the community and has assisted in all worthy projects calculated to serve the people. He assisted in the organization of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and in many other directions has given evidence of his earnest interest in all local affairs affecting the locality of which he has been a resident for nearly forty years.

JOHAN TOFTNER.

Johan Toftner, a prosperous and energetic farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of well-tilled land and where he is actively connected with the social, civic and co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, June 22, 1874, a son of Thomas and Marie Toftner, both natives of Norway, where the father spent his whole life as a farmer. A year before her son Johan came to America, the mother joined her son Gust in Strand township, Norman county, and made her home with him there on the farm until her death. Thomas and Mary Toftner were the parents of several children and the three who grew to maturity were: Gust, Crist, who came to this country with his brother Johan, and who went to

North Dakota, but has not been heard of since, and Johan, the subject of this review.

Johan Toftner was reared to early manhood on the old home farm in Norway, where he received his elementary education in the local public schools and his practical, industrial training on the old home place. He was only sixteen years of age when his mother came to America to join her son Gust, but in the next year the subject of this sketch followed his kin to this country and at once joined them in Waukon township, Norman county. Being only a young man with no capital, he set about industriously to accumulate enough money to begin farming on his own account by working on farms in North Dakota during the summers of seven years. In 1898 he had the opportunity to purchase eighty acres of wild land, all in brush and small timber, in Waukon township, and after he acquired this holding, he began immediately to improve the same. This would have been an almost unsurmountable task for a man later in life, but Mr. Toftner, who is by nature energetic, thrifty and determined, was not daunted by the size and difficulty of the undertaking. Eventually he cleared all of this land and brought it under cultivation, and now, where formerly grew nothing but scrub timber and underbrush, are fields of waving grain and substantial farm buildings. Since the purchase of the land he had made his home on it. Prosperity has so smiled upon his effort that he has recently been enabled to add eighty acres more to his holding and now he has a fine farm of one hundred sixty acres on which he carries on general diversified agriculture. Norman county has been his home since he came to this country.

In 1905, Mr. Toftner was united in marriage to Carrie Gullingsrud, who was born in Norman county, a daughter of Thomas and Carrie (Sanden) Gullingsrud, pioneer homesteaders in Waukon township, Norman county. Thomas Gullingsrud was born in Norway and landed on American soil in March, 1879. After spending two years in Beloit, Wisconsin, he came on out to Norman county and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Waukon township, where he still resides. He erected exceptionally fine buildings on the place, which he has increased to several hundred acres. His wife, Carrie Sanden, also was a native of Norway. He and she grew up in the land of their nativity and there married, coming together to America. They were the parents of eleven children. Mr. and Mrs. Johan Toftner were the parents of five children, all of whom are living: Clara, Tina, Theodore, Agnes and Jens. Mrs. Toftner died on April 19, 1912. She was a conscientious and consistent member of the Norwegian Lutheran

church, as is Mr. Toftner, and according to the precepts of this denomination their children were reared.

Even though Mr. Toftner has been busy in the development and improvement of his farm, he has found time to devote to the material and civic betterment of the community in which he and his family live. Progressive farmer that he is, he is interested in good roads and has rendered the township valuable service as road supervisor. He also helped to organize the Peoples Supply Company at Gary and is still interested in this enterprise.

GEORGE O. SOLBERG.

George O. Solberg, a prosperous farmer of Flom township, Norman county, where he is the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres, a true American, many of whose relatives have offered their lives to their adopted country, was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, May 28, 1864, a son of Olaf and Esther (Aaker) Solberg, both natives of Norway. The father and mother were married in their native land and soon afterward immigrated to America, where they settled in Goodhue county, Minnesota, the birthplace of the subject of this sketch. There they took land and remained until their deaths. They had five children, as follow: Anna, George O., the subject of this sketch; Knute, deceased; Ellen and Peter.

Reared to manhood on the home farm in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he attended the public schools, George O. Solberg has been admirably fitted to carry on successful farming operations in the Northwest. When he reached the age of thirty-one years, he left his father's home and started out for himself on a tract of farm land which he purchased in Goodhue county. Later, he entered the employ of the Farmers Fire Insurance Company, at Vasa, Minnesota, as inspector, in which capacity he made annual trips for investigation. In 1913, he came up into Norman county, where he purchased one hundred and eighty acres of Flom township, and here he carried on general farming and stock raising, breeding thoroughbred Holstein cattle. When Mr. Solberg came to his present farm, he found it fairly well supplied with buildings, but he has added others which add to the efficiency and completeness of his farm plant. He has set out many evergreens on his holding, thus adding to its beauty.

On November 6, 1895, Mr. Solberg married Emma Neil at Minneapolis. She was born at Vasa, Minnesota, in 1865, a daughter of Adolf Fredrick and Anna Katherine Neil. To this marriage have been born the following children: Esther, Olaf, a farmer of Flom township, this county; Harold, Clara, Helen, Victor, Anna and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Solberg are members of the Lutheran church, and are very active in the church work of the community. Both are members of the American Red Cross Association, giving that worthy organization all their moral support and of their substance as much as they can spare.

Mr. Solberg is an American-born citizen and is proud of it. His pride is pardonable for several of his relatives offered their lives to their adopted country, and two of them, a cousin and an uncle, gave their last full measure of devotion to the cause of national integrity and national honor in the Civil War. During that war, his father was a lieutenant in the home guard and he had an uncle, L. K. Aaker, who was a first lieutenant in the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, serving with bravery throughout the War of the Rebellion. After the return of this uncle from the service, he was elected to the state Legislature, serving four terms in the lower house and one in the upper house. He spent his last days in Crookston, Polk county, this state, which was his home. During the time of the Spanish-American War, George O. Solberg kept up the family honor and tradition by offering his services to the United States army, but since he was married, he was rejected. At this time when the world is bleeding from the ghastly wounds of the three years of the greatest war in history, when the forces of absolutism and militarism are trying to dominate the world, he would again freely offer himself on the altar of freedom and democracy.

OLE THORSON.

Ole Thorson, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers and stockmen of the Flom neighborhood, former assessor of Flom township, former president and present member of the board of directors of the Flom Creamery Company, former secretary-treasurer of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company and for years regarded as among the most progressive and public-spirited citizens of that community, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was eighteen years of age and of Norman county since the spring of 1886, being there-

fore very properly regarded as one of the "old settlers" of this section. He was born at Gudbrandsdalen, in Norway, December 10, 1863, son of Thor and Marit (Walden) Thorson, also natives of that country, who were the parents of three children, the subject of this sketch having a sister, Annie, and a brother, Thorwald. In 1888, a couple of years after Ole Thorson had settled in Norman county, his parents joined him here and the father is still living.

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Ole Thorson received his schooling in the neighborhood schools and remained at home until he was eighteen years of age, when, in the spring of 1881, he came to the United States and proceeded directly on out into Minnesota, his objective point being Pope county. There he remained about five years, or until the spring of 1886, when he came on up into the Red River country and became engaged in farming in the township of Flom, in Norman county. Two years later, in 1888, Mr. Thorson bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 26 of that township and, his parents joining him in that year, established his home there. He married in 1892 and has ever since made that place his home, he and his family being very comfortably situated. As he prospered in his operations Mr. Thorson added to his land holdings until now he is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres and has one of the best-equipped farm plants in the Flom neighborhood. In addition to his general farming Mr. Thorson has given considerable attention to dairying and to the raising of live stock and has done very well, long having been recognized as one of the most progressive farmers in that part of the county. He was one of the organizers of the Flom Creamery Company, served as secretary-treasurer and later as president of the same and is still a member of the board of directors of that thriving concern. From 1897 to 1912 he served as secretary-treasurer and as a member of the board of directors of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company and in other ways has given of his time and attention to the general business affairs of his home community. Mr. Thorson also has ever given a good citizen's attention to the civic affairs of his home county and for four years, 1913-17, served very acceptably as a member of the board of commissioners of Norman county. He also served for seven years as assessor of Flom township and for about twenty years as clerk of his home school district, to the duties of all of these several public offices giving his most thoughtful and intelligent attention.

In 1892 Ole Thorson was united in marriage to Augusta Dorseth, daughter of Andreas Dorseth and wife, and to this union four children have

been born, Mina, Oscar, Albert and Alma. The Thorsons are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take an interested part in the various beneficences of the same, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

ASLAK HANSON.

Aslak Hanson, one of the first settlers in Halstad township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred and five acres of well-tilled and improved farming land, was born in Norway, June 25, 1841, the son of Hans and Martha (Ellingson) Aslakson. Both of the parents were natives of Norway, where the father was a farmer, but when the opportunities for thrifty farmers in America came to his notice, he decided to cast his lot in the New World and came to this country in 1869, with his family, and settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, and there remained until his death occurred in 1887. Some time after the death of Hans Aslakson his wife removed to Hardin county, Iowa, and there remained until she died in 1902. To these parents were born the following children : Aslak, the subject of this review; Bertha, Elling, Hans, Gurena, Martha and Ellen, all of whom are dead but the first two named.

Aslak Hanson received his early education, which was limited, in Norway, and there he grew to manhood, helping his father on the old farm. In the year that his parents came to America, he, a young man in his prime about twenty-eight years of age, came with them and settled in LaSalle county, Illinois, where he remained until 1876. While there he worked on farms, and in addition to this, learned the carpenter trade. There was a great demand for the latter in Chicago at that time because the great fire had occurred in that city in 1871 and much building had to be done. After working in Chicago for four years, during which time he had added much to his financial resources, Mr. Aslak Hanson became a pioneer and removed to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1870, and bought the right to two hundred acres of railroad land from a settler in Halstad township, being the first settler in this vicinity. He has remained living on his first holding since his coming, and he now has a well-improved farm on which he has planted a grove and added the other necessary improvements. His experience in carpentering has been of much use to him since he came to this new country, because he has personally built all buildings but the barn. In addition to his

original tract. Mr. Hanson made a valuable acquisition when he bought five acres of timber land.

Mr. Hanson has been married twice. He was married in 1882 to Anne Serine Anderson. To this union three children were born, namely, Henry Melvin, Hartwig Emel and Alfred, the two last of whom died in infancy. On January 7, 1890, Mrs. Hanson died. His second marriage occurred on October 27, 1891, when he was married to Serena Olson, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Ole and Malina (Anderson) Olson, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1880 and settled in Norman county. Two children, Ole and Minnie, were born to this union. Mr. Hanson and his family are devoted members of the Lutheran church, and in the affairs of which they are imbued with an abiding interest.

Mr. Hanson is a valuable citizen to his community, as he has been active in its material betterment. He helped to organize the first creamery and the first Farmers Elevator at Halstad, and was also instrumental in the organization of the Halstad Farmers Fire Insurance Company. The fact that he has served as township supervisor and on the grand jury nine or ten times, shows that he holds the civil interests of his community worthy of a good citizen's attention. Politically, Mr. Hanson adheres to Republican principles and policies and in the affairs of this party he takes a good American's interest.

ANDREW K. RUDE.

Andrew K. Rude, one of Norman county's best-known farmers and men of affairs, proprietor of an excellent farm in Wild Rice township, former treasurer and a member of the board of supervisors of that township, director in several local concerns of a semi-public character and in other ways actively identified with the general affairs of the community, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was twenty-one years of age. He was born on May 8, 1867, son of Knute and Guri (Oleqn) Jolson, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in their native land. Knute Jolson was a farmer and he and his wife were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Julius, Maria, Ingebright, Ragnild and Eyvold (twins), the latter of whom died at the age of six months, and Cecilia, who died when eighteen years of age.

Reared on a farm in his native Norway, Andrew K. Rude received

his schooling there and remained at home until he reached his majority, when, in 1888, he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating at Fertile, up in Polk county. Two or three months later he came down into Norman county and began working at farm labor in Wild Rice township, where he ever since has made his home. In the spring of 1894, shortly after his marriage, he bought a farm of eighty acres in Wild Rice township and there established his home. Not long afterward he bought an adjoining "eighty" and in due time had an excellent farm plant there, developing from the wild land he found upon taking possession of the place a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm, on which he still makes his home and where he and his family are very comfortably situated. Politically, Mr. Rude is a Republican and has ever taken a good citizen's interest in local public affairs. For two years he served as township treasurer and for six years as a member of the board of township supervisors, while for the past sixteen years or more he has been a school officer in his home district. In the general business affairs of the community Mr. Rude also has taken much interest. He was the chief promoter of the Wild Rice Telephone Company and is still a member of the board of directors of the same; for many years was a director of the Gary Telephone Company and for the four years was vice-president of the same; helped organize the Twin Valley Creamery Association and is a member of the board of directors of the same, and is also a member of the board of directors of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company. For the past eight years Mr. Rude has owned and operated a threshing machine outfit and enjoys an extensive patronage in that line.

On December 27, 1893, in Wild Rice township, Andrew K. Rude was united in marriage to Anna Natwick, member of one of the pioneer families of that township, and to this union fifteen children have been born, all of whom are living save William, the fifth in order of birth, who died when about two years of age, the others being Gena, Clarence and Henry (twins), Arthur, Julia, Ida, Agnes, Ruby, William, Walter, Alfred, Cecelia, Selma and Ella. The Rudes are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live, their home being the center of much cordial hospitality. Mrs. Rude was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of Herman and Susan (Johnson) Natwick, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who were married in Wisconsin and who later moved to Iowa, where they remained until 1882, when they came with their family

up into the Red River country and settled on a quarter-section homestead tract in Wild Rice township, Norman county, where they established their permanent home. There Herman Natwick died in 1908. His widow is still living there, the farm being managed by her eldest son, James H. Natwick, present assessor of Wild Rice township. Mrs. Rude has another brother, Henry, and a sister, Jessie. Herman Natwick was one of the most useful and influential pioneers of Wild Rice township. He helped materially in the organization of the local Lutheran church, helped organize the school district in his neighborhood and gave to the district the land on which the school house still stands.

WILLIAM BECK.

William Beck, one of Norman county's well-known and prosperous farmers, owner of three hundred and seventy-five acres of prime land, breeder of high-grade stock, interested in the cause of education and in other ways concerned for the public welfare, is a native of the little republic of Switzerland, but has been a resident of this country for thirty-seven years. He is a son of Andrew and Susan (Berger) Beck, both natives of Switzerland.

Andrew Beck was born in 1841 and was educated in Switzerland, later becoming a farmer and at a subsequent time owned land in his native country. In 1881 he immigrated to the United States and came on to Minnesota, settling in Ada, Norman county, where in 1883, he homesteaded a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14, Winchester township, and engaged in general farming. He carried out many valuable improvements on his holding and came to be recognized as one of the progressive farmers of this part of the county. The wife of Andrew Beck was born in Switzerland in 1842 and died in 1891. Mr. Beck is now living in Illinois, to which state he went in 1914, but still retains his interest in his original quarter section in this county. They were the parents of the following children: William, the subject of this sketch; Barbara, deceased; Andrew, deceased; Louisa, living with her father in Illinois; Anna, married and living on a farm in Illinois, and Julius, formerly in the reclamation service, later going to Oregon, where he homesteaded a tract of land, and recently enlisted in the United States Medical Corps.

William Beck left his native Switzerland at the age of eight years and on coming to this county with his parents, attended the public schools of this county. He assisted his father in the work of developing and

improving the homestead tract which the latter had entered. In 1895 Mr. Beck purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 23, Winchester township, later buying an additional quarter section in section 14, and still later adding fifty acres, now being the owner of three hundred and seventy-five acres, five of which is timber land. He has the place in excellent condition and has remodeled all the buildings, and is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

In 1914 William Beck was united in marriage to Myrtle Swanson, born in Minnesota in 1886, daughter of August and Carrie Swanson, the former of whom is a farmer now living retired at Osseo, Minnesota, and still is the owner of a parcel of land. Mr. Beck gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and served as a director on the local school board for eleven years, and as township supervisor for eight years. He is a director of the Lake Ida Telephone Company and vice-president and director of the Borup Produce Company, which he helped to organize. He is a member of the Woodmen, in which organization he takes a warm interest. In addition to his farming operations, Mr. Beck raises a fine strain of graded stock and also farms his father's place in this county. He cultivates oats, potatoes and wheat, and is generally regarded as conducting his farm operations along modern lines of agriculture, keeping well informed on all the latest phases intended to improve farming conditions.

VALENTINE ONDRUSH.

Valentine Ondrush, a prosperous farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he is the owner and proprietor of one hundred sixty acres of well-tilled land and where he is connected with several of the important co-operative business enterprises of the community, was born in Austria, November 25, 1872, a son of Joseph and Theresa (Pakofsky) Ondrush, both of whom were native Austrians. As many of their countrymen had become comfortably situated in this country, the father came to America in 1891 and came on out to Norman county. Here his wife and a part of the family joined him in 1892. After their son, Valentine, the subject of this review, had established himself on his present farm, his parents lived with him until they bought eighty acres of land in Wild Rice township and there they resided until the death of the mother. Later, the father returned to Austria, where his death occurred. They were the parents of six children, as follow: Mary,

Valentine, Ann and Richard, all of whom came to America; Frank and Anton, who were soldiers in the Austrian army, but were farmers after they had finished their term of service; however, their deaths occurred before the beginning of the present war.

Valentine Ondrush spent his early boyhood and manhood in the land of his nativity, where he received his common-school education in the elementary schools of the kingdom, but when he was twenty years of age, he accompanied his mother and a part of the family to America, where they joined the father in Norman county, Minnesota. Two years later, in 1894, he bought forty acres of land, a part of his present farm, and began his agricultural operations in which he has experienced an unqualified success. As the years have passed, he has experienced marked prosperity in all his undertakings and has been enabled repeatedly to add to his holdings until he now is the owner of one hundred sixty acres of well-improved land on which he carries on general diversified farming.

In 1904, Mr. Ondrush married Eliza Dostel, who is also a native of Austria, and to this union six children have been born, all of whom are living: Rudolph, George, Mary, Anna, Francis and Lewis. Mr. and Mrs. Ondrush are members of the Catholic church and in the affairs of the local parish they are quite active. Mr. Ondrush has never gone in much for politics, but he takes a good American citizen's interest in local, state and national affairs. Since every progressive farmer is cognizant of the need of good roads, he has rendered a conspicuous service to his community in the capacity of road overseer. Mr. Ondrush is connected with several of the important co-operative business enterprises of the community in which he lives. He helped to organize the Faith Milling Company at Faith, the creamery and mercantile company, both of Waukon, and is interested in the Gary Telephone Company at Gary.

JACOB SCHMIDT.

Jacob Schmidt, a prosperous and well-known farmer of Mary township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of a fine, well-improved farm of two hundred and twenty-five acres, and who is actively connected with the co-operative business interests of this section and takes a good citizen's interest in the civil affairs of the township in which he has lived for many years, was born in Bavaria, Germany, August 30, 1868, a son of George and Christina (Link) Schmidt, both of whom are natives of

Germany and now make their home here with their son, the subject of this sketch. George Schmidt, who never owned land after he came to America, was born in 1833, in the old country, where he was a day-laborer, and came to America with his wife, who was born in 1843. They were the parents of three children, as follow: Eva, the wife of Louis Karcher, now living in Missouri; Mary, who married John Arends, and Jacob, the subject of this review.

Jacob Schmidt was only sixteen years of age when he came to this country in 1884 with his father and the family, who came here to improve their condition over what it was in their native land. Being the only son in the family, it was necessary for him to begin work immediately as a laborer to help out the family income. After nineteen years of hard work as a laborer, he has acquired enough capital to permit his entering agricultural pursuits, and in 1903 he arrived in Norman county, where the land was cheap and fertile, and bought two hundred acres in section 15, Mary township. To this holding, he later added twenty-five acres more in section 16, same township. When he first arrived on his new holding, he found it entirely unimproved, save a few shacks scattered here and there. He set about improving his land and to date he has expended five thousand dollars in erecting his house and farm buildings. All of the farm buildings are in an excellent state of repair, being supplied with running water. He has a comfortable and convenient farm home with seven rooms, a gas-lighting system and bath room, hence he here enjoys urban conveniences in the quietude of the rural districts. In 1912 he erected a fine, new, capacious barn at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars. He is an up-to-date farmer, adding to his equipment of farming machinery all the modern improvements in this line. At present, he has an excellent tractor and automobile. He carries on a scientific type of diversified farming, which includes a carefully-worked-out system of crop rotation, and in addition, raises some stock, having at this time about twenty head.

On April 24, 1899, Mr. Schmidt married Rosie Hock, who was born in Germany, February 25, 1874, a daughter of Joseph Hock and Mary Reinhart Hock, with whom she came to this country in 1891, settling in Wilmington, Illinois, where she was married to Mr. Schmidt. Her death occurred on September 25, 1916. This marriage resulted in the birth of five children, namely: George, who is fifteen years of age and lives at home; Annie, aged fourteen; Margaret, eleven years old; Helen, who is eight years of age, and Adolph, five years old. Mr. Schmidt is a devout member of the Catholic church, and takes a deep interest in local parish affairs.

Mr. Schmidt has taken a good citizen's interest in local civic affairs, having actively participated in the road and educational improvement of the community. He has been a road overseer and for six years he was a director on the board of the local school district. Local co-operative business enterprises have come in for a share of his attention. He was a member of the board of directors of the Lee Co-operative Telephone Company for six years and he helped to organize the same enterprise. He also has shares in the potato warehouse at Borup.

LESLIE WELTER

Leslie Welter, one of the prominent business men of Moorhead, Clay county, was born at St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, in 1864. He is the son of David and Margaret (McClellan) Welter, both of whom were natives of Ontario, where they both died. David Welter was a successful farmer and cattle man.

Leslie Welter received his education in the schools of Ontario. When he was eighteen years old, after finishing his course in the Collegiate Institute of St. Thomas, he was employed by the government as a member of a surveying party in the Canadian northwest. In the fall of 1884 he left Canada and came to the United States and located at Moorhead, Minnesota. For the first two years of his residence in Moorhead he taught school. Afterwards he engaged in the mercantile business with F. G. Asselstine and later with H. G. Finkle. The latter partnership continued until the death of Mr. Finkle in 1890, when Mr. Welter continued the business alone. He gradually became more interested in the business of handling potatoes and in the year 1902 sold his store in order to be able to devote more time to his potato business. He is today one of the largest dealers of potatoes in this section and has warehouses at Moorhead, Glyndon, Hawley, Dale, Nielsville and other points in Minnesota. In addition to his extensive business in the handling of potatoes, Mr. Welter is interested in the mining and selling of sand and gravel and has been president of the Muskoda Sand Company since its organization in 1907.

In 1889 Mr. Welter was married to Ella G. Gedney, of La Crosse, Wisconsin, and to this union two children have been born, namely: Leslie, Jr., and Helen Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Welter have long been prominent in social and religious circles of Moorhead and vicinity. Mr. Welter

is a member of the Royal Arcanum, Modern Brotherhood of America, Ancient Order of United Workmen, the Elks, the Moorhead Commercial Club and the Fargo Country Club.

Mr. Welter has always taken an active interest in local affairs. In 1901 he was appointed by Governor Lind as a member of the board of managers of the St. Cloud Reformatory, in which capacity he served for several years. In 1914 he was appointed by Governor Hammond as a member of the State Normal School board, which position he now holds. He has also served as a member of the Moorhead board of education, a member of the city council, and has been president of the Moorhead Commercial Club. He has been a member of the Moorhead charter commission since its inception and has served as a member of the water and light commission.

In 1909, Mr. Welter was one of the active organizers of the Clay County Potato Growers Association, which has had great success in making Clay county potatoes well known throughout the country and which has made Moorhead the central point for the marketing of Red River Valley potatoes. Mr. Welter has been president of the organization for several years. Mr. Welter is very much interested in the general upbuilding of the Red River Valley and for several years president of the Minnesota Red River Valley Development Association, a public organization which has this idea in view and which has done much to give favorable publicity to this section of Minnesota.

JOHN J. LINDBACK.

Among the real old settlers of Norman county there are few who have a wider acquaintance throughout the county or a more intimate recollection of pioneer days hereabout than John J. Lindback, one of the substantial farmers of Lake Ida township, former member of the board of supervisors of that township, for the past fifteen years or more the assessor of the same, a director in various semi-public enterprises in that part of the county and in other ways actively identified with the interests of that region in which he has lived since the days of the pioneers, his parents having been, with their family, the first permanent settlers in Lake Ida township.

John J. Lindback, is a native son of Minnesota, born at Cambridge, the county seat of Isanta county, January 12, 1869, a son of John M. and Margaret (Marcus) Lindback, both natives of the kingdom of Sweden, the former of whom came to this country in April, 1867, and the latter of

whom had come to this side in 1852, the wife of Peter Hassel, settling in Minnesota. During the Civil War Peter Hassel enlisted in behalf of the Union cause as a member of the Third Minnesota Cavalry and died during that service, leaving his widow with seven children. John M. Lindback also had been previously married, his first wife and a daughter, Breta, by that marriage dying in Sweden. John M. Lindback and the Widow Hassel were married at Cambridge, in Isanta county, and some time later moved to Duluth, where they continued to make their home until 1872, when they came up into the Red River country with their family and settled in what later came to be organized as Norman county. It was in the spring of the year that they came here, coming by rail as far as Lake Park, which then was the terminus of the road. During that summer John M. Lindback worked on the construction of the railroad, helping to build the road through to the site of Ada, and in the meantime entered a homestead claim to the southwest quarter of section 24 in what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township, and there established his home, the first permanent settler in that township. It is on that place that the subject of this sketch has ever since made his home, having thus lived there ever since he was three or four years of age. In 1876 the elder Lindback entered a tree claim to a quarter section in section 26 and planted thirteen acres of the same to trees, thus "proving up" his claim. He also later bought an additional tract of eighty acres in section 24, the south half of the southeast quarter, and in due time had all his land in the way to profitable cultivation. In 1879 he sold half of the homestead tract and later an additional tract of ten acres, but still had enough land to make him a fine farm. John M. Lindback not only was the first permanent settler in Lake Ida township, but was one of the forceful pioneers of the county. He helped organize his home township when there was found there a sufficient population to warrant the county commissioners to grant the petition for organization and for some time served as a member of the board of township supervisors. When it became possible to organize a school district in the neighborhood of his home he became a prominent factor in that movement and donated to the district the land on which to erect the school house, and that tract is still used for school purposes in district No. 4. John M. Lindback and wife spent their last days on that pioneer farm, useful and influential pioneers. To them three sons were born, these besides the subject of this sketch, the first-born, being Matt and Oscar.

As noted above, John J. Lindback was but three years of age when his parents settled in Norman county and he has lived here ever since. His

schooling was gained largely at home, for it was fifteen years after the family settled before a school district was organized there, his first attendance at public school being in the building, sixteen by eighteen feet in ground dimension, erected on his brother's farm in what is now district 4. His father taught him also to read and write the Swedish language. Mr. Lindback has always remained on the home farm, having established his home there after his marriage in 1893, and is now the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and seventy-seven acres, which he has improved in admirable fashion. All of this land is in Lake Ida township save twenty acres in the adjoining township of Wild Rice. His house and farm buildings are lighted by electricity and his farm plant is one of the best equipped in that part of the county. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Lindback has given considerable attention to general civic and business affairs of his community. For six years he served as a member of the board of township supervisors and is now serving in his sixteenth year as assessor of the township. From the time of the organization of the school district to the time of his death, his father served as a member of the school board and since the death of his father he has served in that same capacity, doing much for the elevation of educational standards thereabout. Since the organization of the Twin Valley Co-operative Creamery sixteen years or more ago, Mr. Lindback having been one of the incorporators of the same, he has served most of the time as a member of the board of directors of that successful enterprise. He also helped to organize the Lake Ida Telephone Company, has served as a member of the board of directors of the same, with the exception of three years, since its organization and is now president of the company. In other ways also Mr. Lindback has done his part in promoting movements having to do with the advancement of the common good in the vicinity of his home and has long been accounted one of the most influential personal factors thereabout.

On October 16, 1893, John J. Lindback was united in marriage to Ida Josephine Erickson, who was born in Rice county, this state, a daughter of Anton Erickson, who became one of the pioneers of Norman county and further and fitting mention of whom is made elsewhere in this volume, and to this union have been born six children, Milo Gerhart, Isla Jervina, Alfred Johan, Lillie Grace, Clifford Alvin and Alvina Antenette, all of whom are living. The Lindbacks are members of the West Wild Rice Lutheran church and take an earnest interest in the various beneficences of the same, Mr. Lindback being one of the directors of the congregation.

They have a pleasant home and have ever taken an interested and influential part in the general social activities of the community which they have seen develop from pioneer conditions to its present prosperous and well-ordered state.

NELS AMUNDSON.

The late Nels Amundson, one of the large farmers of Fossum township, Norman county, where he owned and operated four hundred acres of excellent farming land and where he was very active in the religious life of the community, was born in Norway, September 14, 1857, and died on his farm, which bore so many examples of his life of tireless industry and unceasing thrift, on November 8, 1910. He was a son of Lewis and Anna Amundson, both of whom were born in Norway, there reared to maturity, married and reared their family. Some three years after the birth of the subject of this review, the father and mother decided to come to America and landed here on the eve of the Civil War in 1860. They first settled in Madison, Wisconsin, where they remained until they moved to Norman county. About 1880 the parents moved on up into Polk county, settled on a farm and there they remained until their deaths.

Nels Amundson spent his boyhood near Madison, Wisconsin, where he received a very limited elementary education in the rude common schools of the day, and when his father and mother moved to Norman county, he came with them. In 1880 when his parents moved to Polk county, he homesteaded a quarter section in Fossum township. Since the land was all timber and brush, without a single building on it, he set to work erecting the necessary structures, around which he set out a grove which has grown into a thing of beauty as the years have passed. Eventually his old original farm home gave place to a more modern structure, which he had built across the road from the first. As the years passed, his industry enabled him to add to his holdings until he had accumulated at the time of his death in 1910 four hundred acres of land, which was practically all in a state of high cultivation.

In 1880, Mr. Amundson was united in marriage with Sonava Halland, who was born in Norway, January 9, 1859, a daughter of Ole and Barbro Halland, both of whom came to America in 1859 and settled in Waseca county, Minnesota. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Amundson has continued to live on the home place here. They were the parents of the following ten children: Lewis, Oliver, Nellie, Sophie and Sophie, both

deceased; Annie, Agnes, Nettie, Norah and Frieda. Nels Amundson, as is his wife, was an active and devoted member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and he was one of the leading workers in the organization of the first church society in the community, the St. Peter Norwegian Lutheran church. Even though Mr. Amundson did not take an active part in the politics of his vicinity, he was always ready with his fullest and heartiest support and co-operation for any movement which had for its aim the civic, social and material betterment of the community.

JOHAN P. SUNDET.

The late Johan P. Sundet, who was a well known and substantial farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he was the owner of a quarter section of fine land, on which his widow now lives, was born in Norway, June 24, 1848, and died, March 10, 1914. He was a son of Severt and Trine Sundet, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they grew up, married, reared their family and died, the former a farmer in the home land.

Reared on the home farm in Norway, where he acquired such an elementary education as the time and place afforded, he acquired a practical farm training which stood him in good stead when he became a pioneer in the New World. He continued to live in Norway until 1880, in which year he immigrated to America and came directly to Norman county. Here he homesteaded a quarter section in Bear Park township, where his widow still makes her home. Since the land was raw and somewhat covered with underbrush and small timber, he had considerable difficulty in bringing it to a state of cultivation, but since he was made of the same stuff of which real pioneers are made, he cleared his holding, broke the ground and planted his first crop, from which he reaped a harvest which was entirely up to his expectations. The next problem was adequate farm buildings, but he set to work with a will and, finally as a reward for his labors, he finished an admirable farm plant, which includes good, substantial buildings and a comfortable farm home.

Before he came to America, he met Karen Gagnas, whom he married after he came to America. She was born in Norway, January 1, 1854, a daughter of Arnt and Johanna Gagnas, and to this union eight children have been born, as follow: Arnt, a farmer of Matana; Severt, cashier of the



G. H. MELBYE.

First National Bank of Litchfield, North Dakota; Peter C., who operates the old homestead; Trena, who married Bert Davis and is now residing at Fertile, Minnesota; Martha, living with her brother and mother on the home place; Clara, the wife of Theodore Nordheim, and is now a resident of Godfrey township, Polk county, Minnesota; John, at home, and Joseph, who is assistant cashier of Security Bank of Temple, North Dakota.

Peter C. Sundet, who now lives with his mother on the home farm, which he operates very successfully, is a well-known farmer of the vicinity. He is now township supervisor and has served the community in that capacity for some years.

GEORGE HERBERT MELBYE.

George Herbert Melbye, well-known educator, superintendent of schools in Lockhart, interested in the coaching of boys bands and farm clubs, and otherwise identified with the general progress of educational affairs in and about Norman county, has the distinction of being the first child born in Ulen, Minnesota, his birth occurring on August 26, 1887. He is a son of O. C. and Anna (Bergeson) Melbye, natives of the kingdom of Norway.

O. C. Melbye immigrated to the United States in 1875 and came on to Ulen, where he settled and where he became the owner of a tract of land, which he later sold to advantage. He served the public for a time as postmaster and also successfully conducted an implement and general store. At the present time he is living retired, but nevertheless takes a keen interest in passing events. To O. C. and Anna (Bergeson) Melbye the following children were born: C. A., an engineer; O. W., deputy state board inspector; H. A., a farmer, living at Ulen; Hilda, the wife of Gill Fevig; Minnie, who married N. W. Murphy, a telegraph operator; George Herbert, the subject of this sketch; A. E. O., a former newspaper man, now at Camp Dodge; Carl, telegraph operator at Hawley; Ragna, the wife of C. Swensen, living at Flom; C. Bennett, who graduated from the Ulen high school and is now a member of Battery F, at Moorhead.

George H. Melbye was educated in the schools of Ulen and early developed a capacity for the teaching profession, to which he has since devoted his life, beginning his teaching career at the early age of fifteen. He prepared for the work of teaching by attending the normal school at Moorhead and taught school between times until he finished the course at

the normal. Later he attended the University of North Dakota and is now at the University of Minnesota. Mr. Melbye became the first superintendent of the first consolidated school in Norman county and also helped to put up the school. He is an acknowledged authority in the administration of school affairs and has made a study of the work of conducting consolidated schools, with a view to their successful operation, his efforts in this direction being admitted by all classes engaged in educational work.

In addition to his labors in connection with scholastic matters, Mr. Melbye takes a warm interest in the work of organizing boys and girls state industrial clubs, and is county leader in that work, and also is state organizer for the Farm Boys Cavaliers. He has always taken an active part in farm club organization, and lectures at intervals throughout the county in the formation of these clubs. His efforts also extend to the coaching of bands in and about the county and he has been directing bands for the past eight years, his work including the organization and coaching of the band at Ulen. A band also was formed at Lockhart under his guidance, and is rapidly making progress and promises to be one of the best musical organizations in the county. Altogether, Mr. Melbye's efforts for the advancement of the youth of the county along sound lines cannot be too highly commended and it is conceded on all sides that he has done and is doing useful and enduring work.

In 1916 George H. Melbye was united in marriage to Leona Clayton, a native of Jacksonville, Illinois, and a daughter of Herbert and Alice (Parkins) Clayton, natives of the United States, of English descent.

S. N. LEE.

S. N. Lee, the subject of this sketch, was born in Norway on the 7th of April, 1860; he came to the United States with his parents in May, 1866, and settled in Iowa county, Wisconsin. In the fall of 1868 the Lee family moved to Goodhue county, Minnesota. In 1878 they again moved; this time to Clay county, Minnesota, where his father had previously taken up a homestead.

Mr. Lee received a common-school education, and while farm work has always been his favorite occupation, he has also spent a number of years behind the counter in dry-goods and grocery stores. He is a staunch believer in the old philosophy that the overalls is more becoming to the real man than

the dress suit, and that agriculture is the only gainful occupation worthy of a gentleman.

In the fall of 1884 Mr. Lee was married to Miss Margaret Halverson, of Clayton county, Iowa, and in 1885 he again took up farm work. In 1889 he became the owner of the old Lee homestead in section 32, Parke township, Clay county, where he still lives.

Having held minor township offices, such as justice of the peace and clerk of his school district, he has also been twice elected to the state Legislature; the first time in 1911, and again in 1916. In the 1911 session he introduced and had passed an amendment to section 6 of article 8 of the state Constitution of Minnesota, known as the Land Loan Amendment, authorizing the loaning of surplus state funds to farmers at three per cent. interest. This amendment was submitted to the voters at the general election of 1912, but failed of ratification. It was again submitted in 1914, but failed again. In 1916, however, it received the required number of votes and became a part of the Constitution. In the 1917 session he introduced a bill known as the Grain Grading Bill, which was passed, providing for the establishment of grades of wheat on the strength of its milling and bread-producing qualities. He also initiated the section of the new Minnesota Road Law, making it optional for townships to pay the township road tax in cash or labor, and a number of other bills of state-wide importance.

CHARLES BENSON.

The first settler of Strand township, where he now is the owner and operator of two hundred eighty acres of well-improved farming land and where he has been and is prominently connected with the civic, religious and co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives for many years, is Charles Benson, who was born in Norway, December 12, 1848, a son of Bernt Olson and Elizabeth Knutson (Winjevold) Winjevold, both natives of Norway, where the latter now lies buried. About 1879 the father, who was a farmer in the old country, followed his children to America and took a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in Strand township, Norman county, where the family of his daughter, Mrs. Ellen Welle, with whom he lived until his death occurred, now resides. The father and mother were the parents of the following children: Ole, whose death occurred in Norway; Anna Martha, who now resides in Norway; Charles,

the subject of this review, and Ellen, the wife of Andrew J. Welle and who now resides with her family on her father's old homestead in Strand township.

Charles Benson was reared on the old home farm in Norway, where he contributed no small amount of labor and thrift to the cultivation of the same. There during his boyhood days in his native land he received his elementary education and when he reached the age of twenty-two years he decided that the New World extended to him such a flattering opportunity that it behooved him to leave the land of his nativity and establish himself on the fertile soil of the great Northwest. In 1870 he first set foot on American soil, and in order to get a start, he came on out to Sibley county, Minnesota, where he worked out on farms and rented land until 1877. In that year he joined a party of settlers whose destination was Norman county. In this band of determined pioneers was the Gunderson family, of which several members still reside in this part of the county. For several weeks they pushed slowly northward behind their plodding ox teams, but eventually they arrived at their journey's end on June 24 or 25, 1877, and here established their homes. Immediately Mr. Benson took a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in section 34, Strand township, where he has ever since continued to live.

Many pioneer experiences came to Mr. Benson which tried his pluck and thrift, but he weathered the storm of adversity. The summer following the establishment of a home on his holding, was a very wet season, as it rained almost every day for a month. It was absolutely necessary for him to construct some kind of dwelling and to obtain the timber for the same he had to wade a small stream near the site of the home and drag it across to where he was building his house. He experienced no little difficulty in doing this because the stream, which was swollen by months of rain, came up to his neck. His house, which he finally completed under such adverse circumstances, was a rude affair, being half dug-out. During the same season, his supplies ran low and he was compelled to make a trip with his ox team to Audubon for flour. His trip was without incident until he reached the Wild Rice river where, in order to cross the stream, which was on one of its spring rampages, he had to float his wagon across on a boat. In those early days grindstones were just as necessary as they are today, but the difficulty in transporting such a bulky article out to the frontier districts made their purchase price quite high. This fact Mr. Benson found out from actual experience when he made a trip to Ada in the August of 1877 for the purpose of buying such a commodity, which cost him four cents a pound. On this trip

the water from the overflowing streams stood so high in the wagon road that pickerel swam about the wagon as he pushed forward to Ada. The settlers in the township were very few in that first year of his residence there, but since the winter of 1877-78 was an open one, many more came in from Becker county. Nothing daunted by the numerous difficulties with confronted him during the early years of his residence on his frontier farm, Mr. Benson by dint of tireless industry, consummate thrift and hard work, set about raising the necessary farm buildings, planting shade trees and turning the stubborn sod of the raw prairie. Soon good fortune came to him and he has been enabled to add to his original holding until he now has a fine farm of two hundred eighty acres of fine land, well suited to his agricultural operations. As the production of his farm increased his original buildings proved inadequate and he has replaced them all with a new set, including a comfortable farm home. He now carries on an excellent type of diversified agriculture and he breeds graded Shorthorn cattle.

During his residence in Sibley county, Mr. Benson was married to Martha Halse in October, 1873. She was a daughter of Anders and Daarte Halse, born in Norway, November 13, 1843. To this union were born five children, namely: Bennie, Annie, Allie and Martha, all of whom died young, and Mary, the only one living. Mrs. Benson died about nine months after their arrival in Norman county. Mr. Benson was married a second time on October 22, 1889, to Christie Johnson, a native of Norway, born on December 10, 1859, a daughter of John and Margrette Torska. They are the parents of ten children, all of whom are living: John, Minnie, Elmer, Elvina, Manda, Alfred, Olga, Lizzie, Gladys and Chester. Mr. Benson has always been quite active in the church circles of the community, having helped to organize two church societies: the St. Peter Norwegian Lutheran church, the first in the community, and the North Wild Rice Norwegian Lutheran church; at present, however, he is a member of the St. Paul Norwegian Lutheran church at Gary and in the affairs of this church society he and his family take a very deep interest.

Being the first settler in this vicinity, Mr. Benson has seen it grow into one of the most flourishing sections in the state, and in this development he has had no small part. After helping to organize Strand township, he was a member of the township board for many years. He has also played an important role in the educational progress of the township, having helped to organize his school district and served as school clerk for twenty years, his last term of office ending in 1916. Mr. Benson has been also an important factor in the establishment of the co-operative business interests of the town-

ship. He was interested in the Farmers Elevator at Gary and in the creamery at the same place, being a director of the latter enterprise which he helped to organize. In politics, he is an ardent advocate of prohibition, and in the local affairs of his party he is quite prominent.

OLE T. LEE.

Ole T. Lee, a well-known farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he operates his excellent farm of two hundred forty acres and is connected with the civil, social and business interests of the immediate vicinity, was born in Norway, August 18, 1857, a son of Torkel and Bertha O. (Nese) Lee. Both the father and mother were natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family. At this time the former is lying in his last resting place in his native land, but the mother is still living at an advanced age. They were the parents of the following five children: Ole, Christ, Ole, John and Gertrude. Following the example of their father, all the sons are substantial farmers, however, the subject of this review is the only member of his immediate family who has cast his lot in the United States. The only daughter, Gertrude, is a farmer's wife.

Ole T. Lee was reared to manhood on the old home farm across the stormy Atlantic and there he received his elementary education in the local schools, but since much of his time was taken with assisting the family in their common effort toward making the farm pay and since the elementary schools of those days were nothing to compare with those of the present, his early formal training was somewhat limited. Nevertheless, the practical education which he received under the actual working conditions on the home place handily served him when he struck out in farming on his own account when he came to this country. For several years he had heard good reports from his countrymen concerning the farming opportunities in America and soon he burned with desire to go and do likewise. Immediately after his marriage in 1881 he and his wife immigrated to this country and settled first in Dodge county, Minnesota, where they remained for three years, at the end of which period they moved to Stearns county, Minnesota, and then to Polk county, same state. Hearing that better opportunities awaited men of his calling in Norman county, he brought his family here in 1899 and settled on the farm on which he still lives in Waukon township. Since the improvements on his holdings at first were poor, he began

erecting new buildings and now he has an excellent farm plant. His thrift and industry during the years of his residence on this place has enabled him to add to his holdings until they now comprise two hundred forty acres, on which he carries on general farming.

On June 6, 1881, Mr. Lee was united in marriage to Johanna Bendics, before he came to this country. She was born in Norway in 1857, a daughter of Lars and Dora Bendics Heler. To this union fifteen children have been born, the twelve living are: George, Lars, Dora, Bertha, Theodore, Ole, Nora, Carl, Anna, John, Severt and Oscar. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Strand and in this faith they are rearing their children. He takes a good American citizen's interest in local and state affairs. Being a farmer of foresight, he sees the necessity of good roads to his community and has rendered valuable service in his district as road supervisor. In addition to his foregoing activities, he helped to organize the Peoples Supply Company at Gary and is still interested in the same.

MATT CHLOUPEK.

Matt Chloupek, a prosperous farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, a part of which is the old home place and who takes an active interest in the civil affairs of the community in which he lives, was born in Kewanee county, Wisconsin, August 4, 1868, a son of Albert and Dortha (Audedly) Chloupek, both natives of Bohemia. The father came to America in 1857 and became a pioneer settler of Kewanee county, Wisconsin, where he bought government land which he farmed. His holding there comprised forty acres, which he sold in 1881 and came directly to Norman county, Minnesota, where he bought the homestead right of Rier Byverson to one hundred sixty acres, on which the subject of this sketch still resides. At first the homestead was entirely unimproved, having on it only a little shanty for a dwelling when the elder Chloupek bought the right, but he immediately set to work with a will to improve the holding, erecting excellent buildings and planting a fine grove. The father was one of the organizers of Waukon township. By his first wife, whom he married in Bohemia, Albert Chloupek was the father of two children, daughters, Mary and Anna, both coming with their father to America, where the latter died. Sometime

after the death of the first wife occurred in Bohemia, the father married there again and his second wife bore him five children, all of whom came to this country with him; they are: Katherine, Dortha, deceased; Barbara, Josie and Jacob. On the death of the second wife, the father married a third time, after he took up his residence in Wisconsin, to Dortha Andedly and by her he had the following children, namely: Matt, the subject of this review; Bertha, Nettie, Albert, and two others who died in infancy. The father and mother lived on the old homestead in Waukon township until their deaths. They were devoted members of the Roman Catholic church and were active participants in all local parish affairs.

Matt Chloupek spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Wisconsin and there received a common school education in the neighboring district schools, but when he was thirteen years of age his parents removed to Norman county, settling here in Waukon township, where he has continued to live on the old old homestead. After the death of his father and mother, he purchased the farm from the estate and to the original tract he has added eighty additional acres. He has reorganized the old farm plant by the erection of the present excellent set of buildings which replaced the old ones. Now he carries on a scientific form of general agriculture.

On May 29, 1894, Mr. Chloupek was united in marriage to Anna Witasek, who was born in Bohemia, and came to America with her parents, Valentine Witasek and wife, when she was only six years of age. To this union have been born five children, all of whom are living at home: George, May, William, Dorothy and Frances. Mr. and Mrs. Chloupek are devoted members of the Catholic church and they take a proper interest in the affairs of the parish. Mr. Chloupek takes an active part in local civil affairs, serving now as township supervisor and as a member of the school board, on which he has been for several years.

CHRISTIAN OLSON.

Christian Olson, formerly a large landowner of Lee township, Norman county, and now a retired farmer and well-known banker and prominent citizen of Lake Park, Minnesota, was born in Norway, August 20, 1844, a son of Ole and Margrete (Dokken) Olson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family, and there died at a ripe old age, industrious farmers in their community.

Christian Olson was reared on the home farm in the land of his nativity, where he received the elementary education which the time afforded, and there devoted his effort and industry to the cultivation of the old home place until his marriage in 1866. In that year, he and his wife decided to cast their lot with others of their countrymen in the New World and there establish their home; accordingly they boarded one of the clumsy sail boats of that day and struck out boldly across the Atlantic and landed in America on June 23, 1866.

Starting out in a lowly position of working on a farm on shares, Mr. Olson has achieved the position of prominence which he enjoys today. The first year of their residence in this country, Mr. and Mrs. Olson spent in Houston county, Minnesota, among friends and acquaintances from the fatherland; then they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the former worked for three years on a farm on shares, but the inducement of cheap and fertile new land in the northwest section of Minnesota caused them to leave Iowa and strike out northward overland to Becker county, Minnesota, on May 17, 1870. Four or five hundred miles of trackless wilderness stretched away before them, and their progress was quite slow when it is remembered that a yoke of plodding oxen was their means of locomotion. Finally, on June 24 of that year, they arrived in Becker county, and immediately settled on their homestead of one hundred sixty acres in sections 18 and 19, Audubon township. At once, Mr. Olson began to improve his holding and, finally, as the years passed, he has been enabled to add to his holdings in Becker and adjoining counties, until he became one of the largest landowners in this section of Minnesota. Since he has large business interests, which have continued to grow, it became necessary for him to quit farming about sixteen or seventeen years ago and move to Lake Park, Becker county, Minnesota, so that he could the better attend to his affairs. He there bought property which he later sold and then built a large brick house in which he lives at present. When Mr. Olson quit farming, he sold the greater part of his holdings to his children and his son, Olaf, jointly with his daughter, Mrs. Ruster, own the large farm which formerly belonged to their father in Lee township, Norman county.

Since his retirement from agricultural pursuits, Mr. Olson has given his entire attention to his business interests. He helped to organize the Becker County State Bank at Lake Park and is now president of the same. He was a director in the Farmers Insurance Company of Lake Park and Cuba for a number of years, and at present, he owns stock in the Security State Bank of Detroit, Minnesota. Not only has he been active in the

extension of credit facilities of this section, but he has also been instrumental in providing better marketing facilities for the farmers as he helped to organize the Farmers Elevator and the creamery at Lake Park. Mr. Olson has had time in his very busy life to take an active part in the civic affairs of his community, for he has served on the town council of Lake Park for two terms and is at this time a director of the Lake Park Orphans Home.

In 1866 Christian Olson was united in marriage to Marie Rask, in the same year he and she came to America. Mrs. Olson is a native of Norway, born on February 6, 1843, a daughter of Halvor and Jorand Rask. To this union twelve children were born, namely: Christian, who lives in Lake Park, Minnesota; Hannah, the wife of Petter Ruster, now living in Crosby, North Dakota; Julia, who married O. W. Davis, and now lives two miles from Lake Park; Olaf, a prominent farmer living in Lee township, Norman county; Josephine and Caroline, both deceased; Helen, the wife of Ed. Ingebretson, living on the old homestead in Becker county; George, who also lives on the old place; Minnie, living with her parents; four daughters and one son, deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are devoted members of the Lutheran church and in the faith of this denomination they have reared their children, Mr. Olson being at present a trustee of the congregation of which the family are members.

JOHN THOMAS LUSSENDEN.

The late John Thomas Lussenden, who was one of the more recent comers to Norman county, where he carried on farming operations in Green Meadow township, was born in Boltenville, Wisconsin, March 26, 1856, a son of George and Lydia (Marcellus) Lussenden, the former a native of England and the latter of Ohio, who came out to Wisconsin in an early day. There they settled in Boltenville, where they remained until death, well-known and respected pioneers and influential citizens of the community. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this review was the third in order of birth, the others being: Willet, Phoebe and Rosetta, deceased.

John T. Lussenden was reared to manhood in Boltenville, Wisconsin, under frontier conditions, and in his boyhood he had all the experiences common to pioneer boys. Sometime after he had reached man's estate, he

left the parental roof and struck out independently into farming operations near the place of his birth, and in this venture he experienced substantial success. When he reached the age of twenty-eight years he married and settled near Boltenville attending to his farming interests until 1904, in which year he and his family decided to make a change. Feeling that they could find better opportunities in Minnesota in the Red River country, they came to Norman county and settled in Green Meadow township where the father farmed with much success until 1910, when his death occurred on January 29, of that year.

On May 22, 1881, Mr. Lussenden married Mary Kenney, who was born in Boltenville, Wisconsin, September 26, 1857, a daughter of James and Katherine (Burns) Kenney, both natives of Ireland, from which country they came to America in 1848. They settled in Boltenville, Wisconsin, where they lived until the death of Mr. Kenney in 1881, after which time the widowed mother removed to Norman county, where she now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. John T. Lussenden. Mr. and Mrs. Lussenden were the parents of the following six children: John Joseph, Rose Marie, George James, who operates the home farm; Stella Josephine, deceased, and Luella and Albert M. Since the death of Mr. Lussenden his widow has continued to make her home on the old farm in Green Meadow township. The former was, as is Mrs. Lussenden, a devoted member of the Catholic church, in the faith of which denomination they reared their children. Although Mr. Lussenden's residence in Norman county was comparatively short, his ready support and co-operation with all movements which had for their purpose the social and material betterment of the community in which he lived made for him a place among the progressive and public spirited citizens of the county.

OLE WENNEVOLD.

Ole Wennevold, one of the pioneer homesteaders in Sundahl township, Norman county, and for the past eight or nine years grain buyer for the Cargill Elevator Company at Flaming, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age and of Norman county since 1887. He was born on June 20, 1854, eldest child and son of Ole and Anna (Haaven) Wennevold, also natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land.

The elder Ole Wennevold and his wife were the parents of nine children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Ole (2), Thor, Ingebright, Gudmund (deceased), Guru, Helga, Randa and Helga (deceased).

Reared on a farm in his native land, Ole Wennevold received his schooling there and remained there until he was eighteen years of age, when, in 1872 he came to the United States and located at Ossian, Iowa, where he remained for about four years, at the end of which time he went over into Wisconsin and was there engaged for about five years in lumbering, working in the timber woods, mostly as scaler of logs, and on rafts in the rivers. He then came over into Minnesota and for two years thereafter was engaged as a clerk in a store in Goodhue county, later going to Crookston, where he worked in a store for two years. Thus qualified by preliminary experience for the mercantile business Mr. Wennevold formed a partnership with Peter Moe and the two came up here into the Red River country and started a store at the townsite of Menter, in Polk county, the first store at that place, which then was thirty-five miles from a railroad. About two years later Mr. Wennevold disposed of his interest in that frontier store and came down into Norman county and married the girl with a homestead, and to whom he had been engaged for fifteen years. It consisted of a quarter of section of land in section 9 of Sundahl township and he proceeded to develop and improve the same. He established his home on the place and has ever since resided there, for many years having been regarded as one of the most substantial farmers in that part of the county. Since settling there Mr. Wennevold has added to his holdings by the purchase of an adjoining quarter section and now has a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of three hundred and twenty acres. In addition to his general farming Mr. Wennevold has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done well. In 1909 he was employed by the elevator company at Flaming, as local grain buyer for the concern, now the Cargill Elevator Company, and has ever since been thus engaged, though continuing to make his home on his farm, and his son, Joris Wennevold, has since been managing the home farm. Mr. Wennevold helped organize the Sundahl Mercantile Company and the creamery at Fertile and in other ways has given his thoughtful and intelligent attention to the business affairs of his home community. He also has taken an active part in the general civic affairs of the community and for many years has been serving as clerk, as assessor and as justice of the peace in and for his home township.

On March 29, 1887, Ole Wennevold was united in marriage to Anna Holten, of Sundahl township, who also was born in Norway, daughter of

John Holten and wife, who came to this country and settled in Sundahl township, Norman county, among the very first settlers of that part of the county, and to this union two children have been born, Anna, wife of Reverend Edward Rorem, of Rindal, and Joris, who is now operating the home farm, as noted above. The Wennevolds are members of the Lutheran church and have ever been regarded as among the leaders in good works in the community of which they have been a part since pioneer days.

MAGNUS O. GILBERTSON.

Magnus O. Gilbertson, a well-known resident of Anthony township, Norman county, where he owns and farms four hundred acres of well-improved land, was born in Richland county, Wisconsin, September 7, 1873, the son of Ole and Christie (Monson) Gilbertson, both natives of Norway.

Ole Gilbertson came to America in 1861, bringing with him his father, Gilbert Klemmer; his mother, however, had died some time before he emigrated to this country. Soon after he arrived in America, Ole Gilbertson settled in Richland county, Wisconsin, where he met and married Christie Monson, who had come from Norway two years after her parents, Mons and Mary Monson, had left their native country and located in Grant county, Wisconsin. Later, her parents moved to North Dakota and lived the rest of their lives with some of their children who lived there. After their marriage Ole Gilbertson and wife left Richland county, Wisconsin, removing to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1891, and settled in Halstad township, where the former bought land and farmed until his death, at which time his holdings had been increased to five hundred acres of improved land. Ole Gilbertson, who was the father of fourteen children, was married three times, and Christie Monson was his last wife. By his first wife he had the following children: Gilbert O. and Anna, wife of Pete Hagerston; by his second wife: Janie, who married Stev Nelson; by the third wife: Mangus O., the subject of this review; Olaf, Albert, Cornelius, Gust, Clara, wife of Anton Orvick; Oscar, Andie, Tilla, who married Ole Orvick; Clarence and Marie. The entire fourteen are still living.

Magnus O. Gilbertson spent the early part of his life in Richland county, Wisconsin, where he received a common-school education, and when he was eighteen years of age moved with his parents to Halstad township and there lived with them on the home place until 1898, contributing his share

of effort to the improvement and cultivation of his father's holding. In the year just mentioned, he decided to begin for himself and bought two hundred and forty acres of bare prairie land in Anthony township, Norman county. The raw condition of his holding made it necessary for him to work long and arduously to get it under cultivation, but he succeeded so well and so prospered that he was enabled not only to erect on his farm fine, modern farm buildings, but also to extend his acreage until now he is the owner of four hundred acres of fine land on which he carries on general farming.

On October 28, 1898, Mr. Gilbertson was united in marriage to Inga Kittelson, who was born in Norway, the daughter of Johanas and Gunhild Kittelson, who emigrated from the land of their nativity and settled in Norman county. To this union have been born seven children, namely: Oliver, Clarence, Ida, Selmer, Bennie, Mabel and Tilla, all of whom are living. Mr. Gilbertson, who is kept very busy in superintending his large farming interests, has devoted much of his time to the common civil and business activities of the community, having served on the Anthony township board for some years and having helped to organize the creamery at Halstad. He and his family are consistent and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they have a deep and abiding interest. Any movement for the betterment of the common interests of his community receives his heartiest and most zealous co-operation.

NELS O. MOEN.

Nels O. Moen, a well-known and substantial farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, where he now owns and operates a fine farm of three hundred and ninety nine acres and where he was an early settler who helped to organize the religious, civil, educational and co-operative business interests of the community, was born in Norway, March 29, 1853, a son of Andreas Olson and Mary (Haugen) Moen. Both the father and mother were natives of Norway, from which they came to America in 1862 and settled in Colfax township, Dunn county, Wisconsin, where they spent the rest of their days, well-known pioneers of that section. When the family arrived in Colfax township, Dunn county, the father took a homestead. This family with that of Ole Running were the first settlers of the township, and the nearest neighbor to the Moens was at first seven miles away.

Andreas Olson Moen was very active in the early history of Colfax township, for he helped to organize the township and the school district. He and his family were very zealous members of the Lutheran denomination, the father helping to organize the first church of the community, the Norwegian Lutheran Synod church. Andreas and Mary Moen were the parents of ten children and the eight who grew to maturity are as follow: Ole and Martha, deceased; Oli, Betsie, Ingeborg, deceased; Nels O., the subject of this review; Anna and Ida, deceased.

Nels O. Moen was only nine years of age when he first trod upon American soil in 1862, when he accompanied his parents to this country, hence he received little or no formal education in the land of his birth. After the family had settled in Wisconsin and the school district was organized, largely due to the efforts of Andreas Moen, the father of the subject of this sketch, Nels O. seized the opportunity to learn the English language along with a few other fundamentals of an elementary education. The greater part of his time was spent in working on his father's holding, to the development of which the entire family bent their efforts. Here it was then that he acquired excellent training which he found invaluable when he, too, became a pioneer of Norman county, Minnesota. In 1878 he decided to leave the parental roof and settle in Norman county. He had his own team and wagon, and, in company with Ole Wall, he set out from Menomonie, Wisconsin, and in two weeks arrived at Twin Valley, Norman county. Ole Wall was a blacksmith, whom Mr. Moen hauled, with his outfit, as far as Twin Valley, where the former employed someone else to take him the remainder of his journey to Ada and there he set up his place of business, the first blacksmith in the village. In the same summer Mr. Moen homesteaded a quarter section in Waukon township and began breaking the tough prairie soil. Finding that he could trade his team of horses for yokes of oxen and a breaking plow, he made the exchange which proved very beneficial to him. Those early years of his life on his farm were not altogether pleasant, because methods of transportation were clumsy and living conditions primitive, but Mr. Moen saw in the future, where then lay an expanse of the unbroken, virgin prairie, a fine, well-improved farm, with excellent buildings and groves. This has all been realized. The original homestead has grown to a tract of three hundred ninety-nine acres, well equipped with substantial farm buildings and grove and in a high state of cultivation. In addition to this tract, he has thirteen acres of timber land in Fossum township, Norman county. Mr. Moen carries on very successfully general farming operations and he also raises Shorthorn cattle.

On February 12, 1886, Mr. Moen married Annie Osleson, who was born in Norway, daughter of Osle Bjella, and to their union the following children were born: Matilda, deceased; Ida, Alfred, Oscar, Ingvald, Ole, Clara, Celiuss, Mabel, deceased, and Clarence and Lillian. Mr. and Mrs. Moen are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, both being very active in the church work of that denomination in the neighborhood. The former helped to organize the first church of the community, the St. Peter Lutheran church, in Strand township.

By virtue of his being one of the earliest settlers in these parts, Mr. Moen has been enabled to see the startling development of the country from a prairie wilderness to a garden spot with all the appurtenances of civilization, and he has played no small part in bringing the community up to its present status. He was one of the organizers of Waukon township, and in the old days before roads were laid out, he served the community in the capacity of path master. Every time that Mr. Moen reflects that he has three hundred and ninety-nine acres instead of four hundred, his heart undoubtedly swells with gratification, because of the whereabouts of that missing acre. He dedicated that acre to the educational interests of the vicinity, for when he helped to organize the school district, he donated the acre as a site for a school building. Being always interested in the educational progress of the community, he rendered valuable service during his long tenure of office as treasurer of the school district. He was first treasurer and was a member of the first board. The co-operative business interests of the township came in for a part of his attention. He helped to organize the creamery at Waukon, has been director of the same at different times and is now on the board. He also helped to organize the Waukon Mercantile Company.

PETER I. STIEN.

The late Peter I. Stien, a pioneer blacksmith, wagon maker and boat builder of Flom township, Norman county, where his handiwork was a valuable aid to the early settlers of that section, was born in Norway, January 9, 1838, and died here on the home place, May 26, 1906, at the age of sixty-eight years. Until he was thirty years old, he lived in his native land, where he learned his trade and acquired the formal education which the time and place of his residence afforded. It was in 1868 that he bade his native land farewell and he landed on the hospitable shores of America in the same year.

For some years after he arrived in this country, Mr. Stien wandered here and there, working at his trade, but in 1882 he located in Flom township, Norman county, where the neighboring farmers, who were in great need of a repair man, bought him tools and built him a shop. He built a log house with a clay roof and became a permanent settler of this section. As his business thrived with the passing years, he branched more and more out into farming. When he first came to Flom township, he pre-empted forty acres in section 4, but after he had lived on it two years, he sold it and bought eighty acres here in section 5. Subsequently, and at different times, he added eighty acres more in forty-acre tracts, all in section 5. Since his holding was mostly in timber, the land had to be cleared and the expense of this was about eight or nine dollars per acre. At the present time one hundred and fifteen of the original one hundred and sixty acres are under cultivation and under the careful management of his sons, it is producing well. Formerly considerable grain was raised on the farm, but the sons have turned to stock breeding and diversified farming. They raise thoroughbred Shorthorn cattle and blooded swine. The farm plant is well-appointed, being comprised of excellent machinery and substantial farm buildings. There has just been completed a large barn with a cement foundation and floor, and in 1910 the farm home, which approaches urban convenience, was erected.

Mr. Stien was united in marriage to Gertrude Olson, who was born in Norway, October 7, 1847, and to this union eight children were born, four of whom are dead. Albert O., the second in order of birth, was born in Wisconsin, in 1869. He received his formal education in the common schools of Iowa and Flom township, this county, and when he reached manhood, he entered the shop of his father where he worked for several years. He then took up carpentering and was engaged in building houses and farm buildings in this vicinity, where he now makes his home on the family holding. He was justice of the peace for one term. The sixth child is Rhoda D., who was born in Iowa and makes her home here with the family. Julian G., who is seventh in order of birth, was born in 1883, on the original forty-acre tract which his father pre-empted, and he now carries on the farming. Edward D., the youngest child, was born on this farm in 1886, in the old log house with shingle roof. Making his home here on the farm, he aids his brother, Julian, in the cultivation of the old home place. The widowed mother still lives on the old farm with her children. She and her husband were members of the United Lutheran church, in the

affairs of which they took a deep interest. The father had shares in the Farmers Elevator and creamery at Twin Valley, but at this time both of these enterprises have passed out of existence. In politics, Mr. Stien was a Republican, but he never sought after office, although he took a deep interest in the social, civil and moral betterment of the community in which he lived for so many years, a valued citizen, excellent workman and sturdy pioneer.

ERICK STEPHENSON.

Erick Stephenson, a farmer of Strand township, Norman county, where he operates a fine well-improved farm of one hundred sixty acres and who is interested in the business, civil and educational affairs of the community in which he lives was born in Sweden, December 19, 1860, a son of Ole and Marie (Person) Stephenson, both natives of Sweden, who immigrated to America in 1884. As soon as they arrived here they set out for Norman county, Minnesota, and when they reached their journey's end, they located in Sundahl township, where they took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 12. There he and his wife spent the rest of their days, the former dying on November 13, 1915, at the ripe old age of eighty-seven years. The parents of Ole Stephenson lived and died in Sweden, but those of his wife, Marie Person, came to America in 1869 and settled in Nicollet county, Minnesota, where the mother died the same year. The father remained there until 1881, in which year he came northward into Norman county and pre-empted the quarter section which his son-in-law, Ole Stephenson, proved up. Ole Stephenson and wife were the parents of ten children; the five who did not die in infancy are: Ellen, Erick, Lewis, August and Johanna. Ole Stephenson and his father-in-law, Erick Person, were quite active in the early religious affairs of the community, both helping to organize the Swedish Lutheran church at Sundahl.

Reared in Sweden where he received his elementary education, Erick Stephenson was only sixteen years of age when his parents left him behind while they came to America to look for a location. In the following year, 1885, they sent for him and he came directly to his parents, in Sundahl township, Norman county. He lived with them on the home place, contributing his share of energy and industry to the development of the same until his marriage in 1890. In 1891 he bought the farm where he now lives, and even though he carried on farming operations there, he did not leave his father's

home until the autumn of 1894. His excellent farm in Strand township, which was entirely unimproved at the time of its purchase, comprises one hundred and sixty acres. He has erected all the good, substantial buildings which make up his admirable farm plant and around the comfortable and convenient farm home he has set out a beautiful grove. Here he carries on general diversified farming and is highly successful in his operations.

On October 10, 1890, Mr. Stephenson married Augusta Groberg, a native of Sweden, born October 31, 1870, a daughter of A. C. and Margareta Elizabeth Groberg. To this union six children have been born, one of whom died in infancy; the others being: Arthur, Clarence, Elsie, Lewis and Hazel. Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and in the affairs of which they take a deep interest. In politics, Mr. Stephenson is a Republican, and he is quite active in the local affairs of his party. For ten or eleven years he has served the people of the township in the capacity of assessor, and he is now and always has discharged his duties with impartiality and precision. The educational interests of the community have always been a source of interest to him and he has served on the school board for the last fifteen or sixteen years. In addition to these activities, Mr. Stephenson is connected with the co-operative enterprises at Gary, having helped to organize the Peoples Supply Company at that place and has been a member of the board of directors since its organization. He was also formerly interested in the Farmers Elevator at Gary.

B. O. LEE.

The Lee family has been one of the best known and most influential in Norman county since the early pioneer days here, and one of the creditable representatives of the same of the present generation is B. O. Lee, one of the leading agriculturists and stockmen of western Minnesota. He was born in Rice county, this state, December 6, 1869, and is a son of Ole J. and Anne Johanne (Aslakstrom) Lee, natives of Norway.

Ole J. Lee grew to manhood in his native land, where he attended school and was married. He sailed for American shores in 1867, locating with his family, in Rice county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1871, in which year he moved to Fargo, North Dakota, and settled on a homestead one mile south of that city, in Cass township. He lived there until 1878, at which time he came to Lee township, Norman county, and was one of the

organizers of the township, the township being named for him. The first township election was held at his home. He continued to make his home in that township until December 4, 1884, when he went back to Norway, taking his family, and there he spent the remainder of his days, his death occurring at an advanced age in 1904. His wife had died in Fargo, North Dakota, in 1878. He had been very successful as a general farmer and stockman, forging to the front through his own efforts from an humble beginning. When he landed at Fargo the first time he had only twelve dollars and fifty cents, after paying his stage fare. The terminus of the nearest railroad was at Alexandria, one hundred and thirty miles away. He endured the usual hardships and privations incident to life in those primitive times on the wild western prairies. It took him two years to accumulate enough money with which to buy a heifer which he desired to grow into a milch cow. But he persevered, worked hard and managed well and consequently success attended his efforts. When he arrived in what is now Lee township, Norman county, in 1878, he had enough means to buy a section of land, one-half of section 15 and one-half of section 16. He was a booster and leader among the pioneers and did much to help start the local schools, churches and other evidences of modern civilization. He helped organize the first Norwegian Lutheran church in that township and was an active member of the same as long as he lived there. He was a man of unswerving honesty and he was highly respected by all who knew him. His family consisted of five children, named as follow: Jens O., Hans O., Christine is the wife of C. E. Olson and they live in Fargo, and B. O. and Edward.

B. O. Lee, the immediate subject of this sketch, grew to manhood on the home farm and worked hard assisting his father to break the virgin soil and put it in cultivation. He attended the public schools in Fargo, North Dakota, and later those of Lee township, Norman county, and after the father returned with his children to Norway, he attended the parochial schools there. Returning to the United States in 1888, after spending three and one-half years in the old country, he operated his father's farm in Lee township, Norman county, for three years, then bought one hundred and sixty acres, a part of the home farm, and continued farming there one year, then rented out his land for three years. During that period he at first ran a livery barn in Perley one year, then sold farming machinery for two years, representing the Deering Harvester Company of Chicago, his territory embracing this section of Minnesota. He gave his firm satisfaction in this capacity. He then resumed active farming on his land and has since followed general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale, with most gratifying results.

He is owner of four hundred and forty acres in sections 16 and 21, Lee township, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. He put on all the improvements now on his land, which are modern and substantial. He has a large and attractive home, with modern conveniences. He raises large quantities of grain, much of which he feeds to cattle and hogs, shipping several carloads of fat live stock to the markets. He is not only a close observer, but a diligent student of twentieth-century methods of agriculture and stock raising. Mr. Lee is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Perley and is president of the same. Its popularity and rapid growth have been due to his able and judicious management.

Mr. Lee was married in 1897 to Maria Larson, a native of Minnesota. She received a common-school education, and she is a daughter of Iver and Sissel Larson, natives of Norway. Three children have been born to Mr and Mrs. Lee, namely. Stella, Oliver Lawrence, and Clara. Mr. Lee has long been influential in local public affairs. He served as assessor of Lee township from 1897 to 1908. He was elected commissioner of Norman county in 1908 and he served in this capacity until 1917. For three years he was chairman of the board of county commissioners. As a public servant he discharged his duties in an able, faithful and creditable manner and to the satisfaction of all concerned. He is an active member of the Norwegian Lutheran church and was formerly secretary of the church.

JOHN HOVLAND.

The late John Hovland, for many years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers in Bear Park township, Norman county, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of this country since he was nineteen years old, having come to America with his brother Andrew in 1869. John Hovland was born in Norway on November 22, 1850, one of seven children born to his parents, Amund and Ingeborg Hovland, the others being Amund, deceased; Christina, deceased; Renald; Ella, deceased; Andrew, mention of whom is made in another part of this volume, and Johanas, deceased. Amund and Ingeborg Hovland were farmers in their native land.

John Hovland, the subject of this memorial sketch, was educated in the schools of his native Norway and helped on the labors of the home farm.

In 1869, accompanied by his brother Andrew, he immigrated to this country, first settling in Goodhue county, this state, and remained in that part for about twelve years, engaged at farm work. In 1881 he moved to Norman county and homesteaded a quarter section of land, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation, his labors in that direction being very successful from the beginning of his farming operations. He put up all the buildings on the place and carried out many valuable improvements and as he prospered in his undertaking he added to his land holdings, until he became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land; at the time of his death in 1915 being regarded as one of the most successful general farmers in that part of the county.

On June 7, 1882, in Norman county, John Hovland was united in marriage to Lena Johnson Hovland, a native of Norway and a daughter of John and Sönöv (Ronning) Hovland, also natives of Norway, in which country John Hovland died. His widow came to this country some time later and has since been living with her daughter, at the advanced age of eighty-six years. They were the parents of three children, Lena, who lives on her late husband's farm; Randine, living at Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Olea, deceased. To John and Lena Hovland the following children were born: Amund, a farmer of Bear Park township; Sven, farming the old home place, and Ida, who married John Hogensen, of Garfield township, Polk county.

The late John Hovland was an active member of the church at Rindahl, which he helped to organize, and of which he had ever been a liberal supporter. He also helped in the organization of the Rindahl Mercantile Company and of the Rindahl Creamery, always filling the part of a good citizen and neighbor. His death on August 7, 1915, was the occasion of very general regret throughout the community in which he had spent so many years of his life.

JOHN O. FLAKNE.

John O. Flakne, the owner and operator of two hundred and forty acres of well-improved land in Bear Park township, Norman county, and the owner of five additional acres of valuable timberland in Fossum township, same county, active in the educational and religious interests of the community in which he has always lived since he came to these parts, and otherwise known as a public-spirited citizen and good neighbor, was born in Nor-

way, July 2, 1855, a son of Ole T. and Guri (Knutson) Flakne, both of whom were natives of Norway and continued to live there until they immigrated to America. It was some eight years after their son, the subject of this sketch, came to America that the father and mother landed on American soil about 1890. They came on out to Polk county, Minnesota, where the father took a homestead almost in the outskirts of the city of Beltrami. After the death of the father at the home of the son, Knut, in the city of Beltrami, his widow removed to Minneapolis, where her death occurred. They had five children, as follow: Torkel, who died at the age of eighteen years in Norway; Marit, whose death occurred in Polk county, Minnesota, in 1917; John O., the subject of this review; Knut, now residing at Holt, Minnesota, and one other who died in infancy.

John O. Flakne was reared to manhood in Norway, where he married in 1881. In the following year he immigrated to America and landed at Philadelphia on June 1 of that year. From there he came on out to Salem, Minnesota, where he remained for about two weeks, and from thence he went to Minneapolis. Feeling that his future in this new country lay in the soil, he spent a part of his first summer in working on a farm in Hennepin county, this state, and on the coming of the following spring, he went to Fisher, Minnesota, where he began working for J. B. Meril on the farm. He remained in the latter's employ for the five following summers, but as he passed through Norman county on his way to take up his work on the farm of Mr. Meril, in 1883, he took a pre-emption claim of eighty acres where he now lives. He erected the necessary buildings on his holding and left his wife on the place while he went on to the Meril farm. Since 1888, Mr. Flakne has given his whole attention to his own farm where he has continued to live. He has now two hundred and forty acres in the home place and five acres of timber in Fossum township, this county. Here he has erected all the buildings, which comprise his excellent farm plant. He now carries on general farming, and is very successful in his operations.

A short time before he left Norway, Mr. Flakne was united in marriage to Jensena Petrena Johanson, who was born at Tjøttö, Norway, September 15, 1858, a daughter of Johan and Karen (Larson) Raffelson, and to this union ten children have been born, as follow: Ole J., living in Montana; Conrad, who died in Montana; Harkimer, whose death occurred in 1910; Theodore, residing in Montana; Ida, the wife of Emil Lukau; George, living in Montana; Martin, deceased; Martin, at home; Alfred and Clara, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Flakne are active in the church work of the community, the former having helped to organize two Norwegian Lutheran churches

of the county: the first church in Bear Park township at Rindahl and the Synod church. They are also otherwise active in the good works of the community.

Mr. Flakne displays a keen interest in the educational and business progress of the community in which he has resided since he came to Norman county. For nine years he was school treasurer. His school district has two school houses: one on the south side of the river and the other on the north, and it was largely due to his efforts that the one on the south side was established. He helped to organize the Farmers Elevator at Gary and has shares in the co-operative stores at Bear Park and Rindahl.

JOHN HEDIN.

One of the well-known and prosperous Swedish farmers of Wild Rice township, Norman county, is John Hedin, the owner and proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and ten acres near Twin Valley. He was born in Sweden on May 25, 1864, the son of John and Gustava (Hendrickson) Orenson, both of whom were natives also of the kingdom of Sweden.

John Hedin was one of ten children born to his parents, the others being as follow: Clara, who is still living in Sweden; Mary Eliza, a resident of Rosa county, Minnesota; Andrew, who died in Sweden when young; Lotta, living at Upham, North Dakota; Andrew, of Bantry, North Dakota; Wilhelm, also a resident of Bantry; Alma, living in Alberta, Canada; Gust, who died young in Sweden, and Emil, a farmer, of Alberta, Canada. The parents of these children came to America in 1893 to make their home with their children, most of whom had preceded them to this country. The father died in North Dakota, while the mother is still living in that state with one of her children, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Lutheran church, and active and interested in the affairs of that denomination.

John Hedin received his education in the schools of his native land, and in 1883 came to America, locating first at Lake Park, Minnesota, where he worked as a farm hand for a period of two years, then for the next four years he worked at various occupations in different parts of the Northwest. In 1889 he started to farm for himself by renting land in Case county, North Dakota, where he lived for four years, at the end of which time he came to Minnesota, and bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Wild Rice township, this county, and has since made this place his home.

with the exception of one year, 1904, which he spent in McHenry county, North Dakota, where he homesteaded and proved up on a quarter section of land. On his home farm Mr. Hedin has made many and various substantial improvements, having rebuilt the house, and erected other buildings, as well as planting a fine grove. He has also added fifty acres of his original tract, making a total of two hundred and ten acres of good farming land. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has made a success of his chosen calling.

In 1889 John Hedin was united in marriage to Amanda Anderson, who is a native of Sweden, the daughter of Andres Hendrickson, and to this union ten children have been born: Harry, Ellen Marie, Hannah Pauline, Ruby, Andrew, Ida Albertine, Wilhelm, Carl Oscar, Victoria and Martin Richard, all of whom are living. The family are all members of the Lutheran church and take an active part in the affairs of the local church of that denomination.

Mr. Hedin has long ranked among the enterprising and substantial farmers and citizens of his community, and has served as a member of the township board almost continuously ever since he came to this county, and is now school director of his township. Besides his farming interests, Mr. Hedin is a stockholder and director in the Farmers Co-operative Creamery at Twin Valley, and was among the organizers of that company.

LEWIS HILMO.

Another of the substantial and enterprising farmers of Norwegian birth who has helped make Lake Ida township one of the finest farming districts of this part of the state is Lewis Hilmo, who was born in Norway, November 25, 1860, the son of Ole H. and Mary J. (Ostby) Hilmo, both of whom also were natives of Norway.

Ole H. Hilmo was a farmer in Norway who, in 1882, decided to come to America, the land of opportunity. He and his family first located in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, after coming to this country, and there he and his wife lived the remainder of their lives. They were earnest and devoted members of the Lutheran church, in which they always took an active and interested part. They were the parents of five children as follow: John, Hans, Mattie, Bernt and Lewis, all of whom are living, except John and Mattie.

Lewis Hilmo received his education in the schools of his native land, and in 1880 came with his brother Bernt to America. He remained with his father in St. Croix county, Wisconsin, until 1885, assisting his father on the home farm, and also working out by the month on neighboring farms. In 1885 he came to Norman county, locating in Ada, and worked as a farm hand on the neighboring farms for two or three years, after which he decided to farm for himself. He purchased some school land in section 36, Lake Ida township, consisting of one hundred and forty acres. He later bought eighty acres more in section 34, of the same township, all of which was raw prairie land at the time he acquired it. He proceeded to improve and develop his land, erecting fine buildings, cultivating the land, and planting a nice grove of trees, and he now has a highly productive and attractive farm, of which he may well be proud. He has always engaged in general farming and stock raising, in which he has met with a very commendable degree of success, which is attested by the fine appearance of his farm.

In 1892 Lewis Hilmo was united in marriage to Mary Pundy, who is a native of Norway, the daughter of Peter Pundy, and to this union six children have been born: Minnie, Oscar, Peter, Mabel, Alma and Myrtle, all of whom are living with the exception of Minnie, who died at the age of six months. The family are members of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America at Twin Valley.

Mr. Hilmo has always been active and prominent in the social welfare and civic betterment of his home community, being especially interested in the schools of the township. He helped organize school district No. 85, being a member of the organizing board. He has for some years been a member of the township school board, sometimes serving as treasurer, and sometimes as director of same. He is now serving as school director.

THEODORE JOHNSON.

Theodore Johnson, a well-known citizen of Waukon township, Norman county, where he carries on extended farming operations on his fine farm and where he is prominently connected with civic, social and co-operative business affairs, was born in Norway, September 25, 1857, a son of Jens and Bertha Johnson, both of whom were natives of Norway, where they grew up and married. In 1872 the family came to America and located at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where the father was in business as a tailor, having

learned this trade in his native land. After he had been thus engaged for some years, he left Eau Claire for Dunn county, Wisconsin, where he bought a farm on which he lived until his death. Some time after the death of the father, the mother removed to Norman county, where she made her home with the subject of this sketch until her death occurred. They were the parents of three children, namely: Theodore, the subject of this review; Gunda, who is still living in Barron county, Wisconsin, and Godfred, deceased.

Theodore Johnson received some formal education, but the greater part was acquired during his residence with his parents in Wisconsin. He remained with them until 1879, in which year he drove overland to Norman county, in company with Iver Martinson, the journey requiring about twenty-one days. Immediately on his arrival here, he pre-empted the southwest quarter of section 28, Waukon township, but two years later he sold his right. During the interval, he went back and forth from his holding to Wisconsin, and spent some time in North Dakota. Later he bought a tree-claim right to his present farm, which he proved up as a homestead, and here he has continued to live. When he first came to his present farm, the land was raw prairie with no improvements of any kind, but now after years of patient industry, he has a set of fine farm buildings around which is growing a beautiful grove. Here on his holding he carries on a general type of farming and breeds Holstein cattle, Poland China hogs and Buff Leghorn chickens.

On July 22d, 1885, Mr. Johnson married Tena Figenskau, who was born in Pierce county, Wisconsin, April 30, 1864, a daughter of Knut and Anna (Thompson) Figenskau, and to this union five children have been born, as follow: Jane, Alice, Freda, Clarence, Alpha, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they take a proper interest. In politics, the former is an ardent advocate of Republican principles, and his voice is well-known in the councils of his party. A very striking thing about the career of Mr. Johnson is his activity in all the common affairs of the community. For years he has been an important township official, for he has at different times been township assessor, which office he holds at present, and was township chairman for twenty-five years, which office he relinquished in 1916. His long service to the civil interests of the public shows that he discharged the duties of his office with strict fidelity and honesty. The co-operative business interests of the community bear a strong impress of his personality. He helped to organize the creamery at Waukon, of which enterprise he was secretary and manager during the first five years of its existence. He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Gary Telephone Company and was a mem-

ber of the board of directors, which position he occupied for many years. For the past twenty years he has been an auctioneer, crying sales all over this and adjoining counties, which occupation has widened and enriched his field of acquaintances. Finally, it may be said that if any movement is inaugurated in the community for its betterment, socially, economically and civilly, it is sure of the unstinted and loyal support of Theodore Johnson.

JOHN A. RUSTVOLD.

John A. Rustvold, one of the early settlers of Hendrum township, where he now lives, the owner of two hundred forty acres of fine farming land on which he carries on general agriculture, was born in Throndhjem, Norway, on September 23, 1864, the son of Arnt J. and Mollie A. (Holland) Rustvold, natives of Norway, who came to America in 1869 and first located at Newberg, Fillmore county, Minnesota, where the former worked. There they remained until 1877, when the elder Rustvold decided to establish his home farther north in the new country in Norman county. Accordingly, he bought farming implements which he loaded into his wagon with the necessary household goods, joined his family with six others, and they all started to Norman county, driving their ox-teams. When the family arrived at their destination, Arnt J. Rustvold homesteaded at once a quarter section where his son, John A. now lives. Since his holding was raw prairie, great effort was entailed in bringing it into cultivation; but nothing daunted by the size of the task the family set to work and eventually their efforts were rewarded with success. When the father's death occurred in 1908, he was the owner of four hundred and thirteen acres of well-improved land. Being one of the early pioneers of the township and anxious to see the civil organization of his community, the father with his son John A. helped to organize Hendrum township. Arnt and Mollie Rustvold were the parents of six children, namely: Anna, the wife of A. O. Serum; Andrew, John, Carolina, and two daughters who died in infancy. The elder Rustvold and his family were early members of the Lutheran church in their community, and the father was an active participant in the organization of the Pontopedans congregation, and was later one of the leading workers in the movement which had for its object the building of the present church building.

John A. Rustvold received the first part of his common-school education in Fillmore county, Minnesota, and later when he moved with his parents to Norman county in his thirteenth year, he finished it in the early schools of Hendrum township. Since he has made his residence here, he has always made his home on the old place, which at present contains two hundred and forty acres, whereon he carries on general farming.

On July 16, 1892, Mr. Rustvold was united in marriage to Randa Hviding, who was born in Norway, August 27, 1870, the daughter of B. B. and Ellen (Pederson) Hviding, of Stavanger, the former of whom was a sea captain, but now a resident of Perley, Norman county. Mr. and Mrs. Rustvold are the parents of the following children: Arnt J., Ellen, Bertha, Ann, Johnie, Orpha, Bernhart, Arthur, who died in infancy, and Arthur and Charlotte. They also have an adopted son, Martin Crogues. Mr. Rustvold and family are active and consistent adherents to the Lutheran faith, worshipping in the old Pontopedans Lutheran church which his father helped to organize. Mr. Rustvold has also been interested in bettering the marketing facilities of his community by helping to organize the creamery and Farmers Elevator at Hendrum. Mr. Rustvold takes a good citizen's interest in all the movements for the betterment of the community.

NELS J. STROMBERG.

Nels J. Stromberg, a well-known farmer, operating a tract of land in Bear Park township, treasurer of Bear Park township and otherwise identified with public affairs, is a native of Norman county, born on the farm on which he still resides, September 27, 1884, a son of Olof and Mary (Bjerk) Stromberg, both natives of the kingdom of Sweden.

In the year 1880 Olof Stromberg and his wife immigrated to the United States, and on arriving in this country came directly to Renville county, Minnesota, remaining in that county for two years. At the end of the latter period they moved to Griggs county, North Dakota, and were in that place for a further period of two years, engaged at farm work. In June, 1884, they moved to Norman county and settled on the farm in section 16, Bear Park township, still in the occupation of Nels J. Stromberg. On this place Olof Stromberg farmed for the remainder of his life, his death taking place in 1894. On settling here he acquired a tract of school land, containing eighty acres and also purchased forty acres of railroad land,

immediately starting to get his holding into a state of cultivation, and he was generally recognized as one of the good farmers among the settlers of that part of the county. He made many valuable improvements on his holdings and erected substantial outbuildings. Olof and Mary Stromberg were the parents of the following children: John E., Olof W., Carl L., Mrs Anna Bagne, who died leaving three children, Clara, Bertha and Sander; Nels J., an infant, deceased; Mary and an infant, twins, the latter deceased; Oscar, deceased; Ida, Freda, and Gustav, deceased. The Stromberg family formerly belonged to Waukon Lutheran church; however, they now belong to and support the Norman Lutheran church.

Nels J. Stromberg was educated in the schools of Norman county and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labor of improving and developing the home place. He is now operating the farm, carrying on general farming and stock raising with considerable success, and is known in the community as an agriculturist of the modern school, keeping his place in such a state of cultivation as ensures the maximum degree of advantageous results. In addition to his work on the farm Mr. Stromberg finds time to devote to public interests and for the last five years has been township treasurer and is director of school board No. 60, in both of these responsible positions giving general satisfaction. Mr. Stromberg helped to organize the Rindahl Mercantile Company. He is president and manager of the Bear Park Mercantile Company, while his mother is interested in the Rindahl Creamery. He is a member of the Norman Lutheran church, in the services of which he takes a warm interest. The children of his deceased sister, Mrs. Anna Bagne, live with Mr. Stromberg on the old home farm since the deaths of Mrs. Bagne and her husband, both deaths occurring in 1906.

OSCAR OLSON.

Oscar Olson, a prosperous farmer of Halstad township, Norman county, where he operates three hundred twenty acres of the old home place, and an official of the Farmers Alliance Mutual Fire Insurance Company at Halstad, was born a native of Norman county, November 20, 1875, a son of Ole E. and Hannah (Scheie) Olson. The former was a native of Norway and came to America in 1851, locating in Iowa a few years. Later, he moved to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1874. In the latter year he drove with his family by horse team with a party of set-

tlers through to Norman county and located in Anthony township. After a few years, residence there, he and his family came to Halstad township acquired the holding on which his son, Oscar, now lives, and there resided until his death in 1892. He was a real pioneer in this new country, for he immediately set about to improve his holding of raw prairie by raising the necessary buildings and plowing up the stubborn soil. In addition to his general farming, he was a breeder of Holstein cattle. The elder Olson was very active in the local civic and religious affairs, for he was a member of the school and township boards, and helped organize the Augustana Lutheran church. In the days of the Peoples Party, he was a very staunch adherent of that political creed, having been a delegate of that party to the convention at Cincinnati, and the year he died he was the party's candidate for the Legislature, and undoubtedly would have been elected had he lived.

The mother, Hannah (Scheie) Olson was born in McHenry county, Illinois, July 7, 1847, a daughter of Andrew and Inger Scheie, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1839 or 1840. Her father, who was a cooper by trade, gradually worked his way westward from Rochester, New York, to McHenry county, Illinois, from thence to Muskego and Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and on up into Minnesota. He and his family settled first in Fillmore county, this state, and later moved on up into Norman county, where they settled permanently in Halstad township. There he acquired a holding on which he and his wife lived the rest of their days, the former being one of the first Lutheran ministers in these parts. To Ole and Hanna (Scheie) Olson were born the following children: Ida, who became the wife of Stenmus Isaacson; Albert E., Emma, who married Almer Tonder; Oscar, the subject of this review; Edward, Hannah, who married Oscar Carlson; Nora, the wife of Thomas Redland; Edna, who is now Mrs. Ben Johnson, and Clara, who lives on the home place with her mother.

Oscar Olson spent his boyhood days on the old home farm in Halstad township, contributing his efforts to the development of the same. He received his elementary education in the public schools of Norman county, but he later supplemented this by attending Concordia College at Moorhead. He attended school at Crookston and at Ada. He has always lived on the home place, operating three hundred twenty acres of it. Some time ago he purchased outright one hundred and sixty acres of the old place and on this he built his home and made all the necessary improvements to

the establishing of a farm plant. He now carries on general farming and the breeding of Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

On January 21, 1903, Mr. Olson was married to Clara Larson, who is also a native of Norman county, born on August 12, 1884, a daughter of L. B. Larson and Anna (Faa) Larson, further mention of whom is made in another part of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Olson are the parents of six children, namely: Carville, Vivian, Verna, Wallace, Lorraine and Harold. Mr. Olson is active in fraternal circles, being a member of the camp of the Modern Woodmen of America at Halstad. In politics, Mr. Olson is a member of Nonpartisan League and in favor of all reforms for the benefit of the common people, and takes a good American citizen's interest in the activities of his party. He has also been interested in local civic affairs, having served on the township and school boards for some years. In the common business enterprises of his community, Mr. Olson has been chiefly interested in insurance, being for the last six or seven years treasurer of the farmers Alliance Fire Insurance Company of Halstad, which office he still holds.

ERICK HAUSKE.

Few names are held in better remembrance in and about Halstad township, Norman county, than is that of the late Erick Hauske, for years one of the well-known and prosperous farmers of that township, former township supervisor and one of the promoters of Halstad Telephone Company, and in many other directions associated with the advancement of the public interests in this part of Norman county. Mr. Hauske was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in that country on March 13, 1852, a son of Lars and Malina Hauske, both, also, natives of Norway and who immigrated to this country in 1858, when Erick Hauske was but six years old, and first located in Fillmore county, Minnesota.

Erick Hauske accompanied his parents to America and remained in Fillmore county, this state, until 1872, in which year he migrated via ox-team to Norman county and filed on a homestead near Hendrum, but later traded his right in that place for a homestead right in Halstad township. On the homestead thus acquired Mr. Hauske proved up and settled on his farm, engaging in general farming and continued in that occupation for the

remainder of his life, his death occurring on August 30, 1915. His widow still resides on the old homestead entered by her husband about forty-five years ago. Erick Hauske was one of the progressive and energetic farmers of the community in which he had been living for so long a time. He effected many substantial improvements on his holding and erected some good buildings, and at the time of his death was the owner of two hundred and ninety-four acres of prime land. He helped to organize and build the Augustana Lutheran church and also the local school.

Erick Hauske was twice married. In 1887 he married Sophia Thompson, a native of Wisconsin, and by that union became the father of one child, a son, Lawrence. His wife died about two years after marriage and in 1904 Mr. Hauske was married to Mrs. Sophia (Thompson) Olson, born in Norway, a daughter of Thomas and Marit (Hones) Johanson, both, also, natives of Norway, where the mother died when Mrs. Hauske was six years old, the father dying there in the winter of 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Hauske became the parents of one child, a daughter Mabel. By a former marriage to Lars Olson, Mrs. Hauske was the mother of one child, a daughter, Elizabeth. Lars Olson died in Norway.

Mr. Hauske was of an enterprising public spirit and for many years was actively engaged in the work of carrying on township duties. In the days of the formation of Halstad township he rendered valuable service in the work of organization and later served as township trustee, bringing to the duties of that office characteristic honesty and ability. He was a road boss for several years and otherwise active in civic affairs. He helped to promote the Halstad Telephone Company and took a prominent and active part in the work of getting the company established.

NELS H. MOE.

Nels H. Moe, who operates the old Moe homestead of one hundred sixty acres in Strand township, Norman county, where he has been and is actively connected with the civil affairs and co-operative business interests of the community, was born in Floyd county, Iowa, December 22, 1873, a son of Helge L. and Bertha (Bagne) Moe, both of whom were natives of Norway where they grew to maturity and married. Some years after their marriage the parents decided to come to America, and bringing with them their daughter Martha, they arrived here in June, 1873. They located imme-

diately in Floyd county, Iowa, and during their residence of one year in that county, their son Nels was born. In 1874 they removed to Mitchell county, Iowa, and after they had resided there about six years, during which time the father carried on farming, the family came to Norman county, Minnesota, in the fall of 1881. Here they located the next spring on a homestead of one hundred sixty acres where their son Nels now lives. On this, the home place, the mother died on April 24, 1904, and the father continued to live here until 1917, when he moved to Willmar, Minnesota, where he now makes his home.

Helge and Bertha (Bagne) Moe preceded their parents to this country by only a few years. The parents of the former, Lars and Margit (Knutson) Moe, both of whom were natives of Norway, immigrated to America in 1878 or 1879, came on out to Nicollet county, Minnesota, and two years later moved to Norman county, where they took a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in section 30, Strand township. Here they made their home until 1900, when they removed to Germantown, Marshall county, Minnesota, where they spent the remainder of their days. Both had remarkable longevity, the latter dying at the age of ninety-four years and the former at ninety. Nels and Bertha Bagne the parents of Bertha (Bagne) Moe were both born in Norway, where they lived their whole lives, the former being a mechanic and farmer. To the parents of the subject of this review were born the following children: Martha, Nels H., Lena and Lewis, both deceased; Belle, Leonard, Helen and Emma. Mr. and Mrs. Moe were devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church; the former with his father helped to organize the Wild Rice Norwegian Lutheran church.

Nels H. Moe was only eight years of age when his parents brought him to Norman county and it was here that he attended the common schools of the neighborhood. As he grew older, he was able to contribute much to the common effort of the family in the development and cultivation of the home farm. The results of their work are obvious, for where lay a scope of unbroken prairie is now a beautiful and productive farm of one hundred sixty acres on which have been erected large, commodious and substantial farm buildings. Mr. Moe, who is unmarried, has always lived on his father's homestead, where he carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture. Mr. Moe has been and is actively connected with the civil affairs and the co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives. For twelve or fourteen years he served his neighbors as township supervisor and for one year as township clerk. Throughout his occupancy of official positions he has discharged his duties with impartiality and with open direct-

ness. Politically, he is a strong exponent of the doctrine of the Republican party and his voice is well-known in the local councils of his party. Feeling that the farmers of the community should have better marketing facilities for their grain products, he helped to organize the Farmers Elevator at Gary.

LOUIS KNUDTSON.

Louis Knudtson, a member of the board of supervisors for Good Hope township and one of the best-known and most substantial farmers in the northern part of Norman county, was born at Decorah, in Winneshiek county, Iowa, April 4, 1865, a son of Gilbert and Eliza (Paulson) Knudtson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former of whom had come to this country in 1848 and the latter, in 1852, who were married in Iowa, but whose last days were spent in Minnesota. Gilbert Knudtson served as a soldier of the Union during the Civil War, a member of an Iowa regiment, and in 1866 moved with his family up into Minnesota and established his home on a quarter-section farm about nine miles south of Albert Lea, in Freeborn county, where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, the latter living until 1915. They were the parents of nine children, seven of whom are still living, those besides the subject of this sketch being Caroline, Serena, Ole, Theodore, Otto and John, the four latter of whom still make their home on the old home place in Freeborn county, where they have an excellent and well-equipped farm plant. Gilbert Knudtson and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Having been but an infant when his parents moved from Iowa to Minnesota, Louis Knudtson was reared in this state and received his schooling in the schools of Freeborn county. In 1895 he started farming for himself in the neighborhood of Albert Lea and in the summer of the following year was married. In 1900 he disposed of his interests in Freeborn county and moved over west into Lac qui Parle county and bought a farm of eighty-seven acres in Freeland township, that county, where he made his home for twelve years, at the end of which time he traded that farm for the farm of two hundred acres in Good Hope township, Norman county, on which he is now living, and has since made his home there, he and his family being very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. He has a fine herd of Hereford cattle and has done well in his farming operations. Ever since becoming a resident of Norman county Mr. Knudtson has taken a proper interest in

local political affairs and is now serving as a member of the township board, a service he had rendered during another term some years ago, and also has been a member of the school board in his home district almost all the time since moving here. He also held local office during the time of his residence in Lac qui Parle county.

On June 27, 1896, Louis Knudtson was united in marriage to Louisa Hagen, who was born in the town of Freeman, Freeborn county, Minnesota, a daughter of Thorsten Hagen, a veteran of the Civil War, and to this union have been born eight children, all of whom are living, namely: Gustav, Gena, Elmer, Ernest, Lillian, Mabel, Gladys and Florence. The Knudtsens are members of the Lutheran church and take an interested part in local church work, as well as in other local good works and in the general social affairs of the community in which they live.

ALBERT BRAUNSCHWEIG.

Albert Braunschweig, the proprietor of a fine farm in Pleasant View township, Norman county, and who takes a good citizen's interest in the social and moral betterment of the community in which he has lived for several years, was born in Germany, a son of Carl and Amelia (Pinskie) Braunschweig, both of whom were natives of Germany. The father and mother came to this country, bringing their family with them, and located on the farm where their son, the subject of this sketch, now lives. Two years ago, they retired from active agricultural pursuits, and moved to Ada, Minnesota. They had four children, of whom the subject of this review is the eldest, the others being Lena, who is dead; Amelia and Anna, who became Mrs. Lockhart.

Albert Braunschweig was only eleven years of age when he landed on American soil, and he came on out to Norman county with his parents, whom he aided in the development and cultivation of the home place. Here in the local public schools, he received his formal education, but while he gave his assistance to his father on the farm, he gained a practical training in the agricultural operations of this section. It was in 1915 that he bought the home farm from his parents, when they moved to Ada, this county, and he now is the proprietor of a farm of four hundred and forty acres, on which he carries on general farming and raises stock, having eleven horses and some cattle. Under his skilful management the farm has continued to pro-

duce abundantly, and he has improved the land by the erection of substantial and adequate farm buildings and by planting trees; thus he has one of the best appointed farm plants in this section of the county.

On July 16, 1897, Mr. Braunschweig was united in marriage to Maria Merkins, at Ada, this county. She was born in Goodhue county in 1877, a daughter of Henry and Maria (Merkins) Merkins, and this marriage has resulted in the birth of twelve children, namely: Bertha, Anna, Henry, deceased; Lena, Willie, Ida, deceased; Louis, Eitel, Albert, August, Martha and Otto. Mr. and Mrs. Braunschweig are members of the Lutheran denomination and are active in the church work of the community, belonging to the Pleasant View church of that faith. They are rearing their children according to the precepts of this creed. Mr. Braunschweig is a trustee of the Pleasant View congregation, and the way he has discharged his duties has been in strict accord with the character of the man and the responsibilities of the office. He has held some important township offices, but he resigned the official trusts so that he could give his undivided attention to his extensive farming interests. This does not mean that he has ceased to be solicitous for the common welfare, for whenever any movement is inaugurated in the community for its social or moral betterment, it is sure of the hearty co-operation and support of Mr. Braunschweig.

NERE J. NERESON.

Nere J. Nereson, one of Norman county's well-known and substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres in Strand township, former assessor of that township and in other ways interested in the public affairs of that community, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born in Nicollet county, this state, March 9, 1857, a son of one of the pioneers of that part of the state, and grew up familiar with pioneer conditions in Minnesota. In 1879, shortly after his marriage, he settled on the farm on which he is now living and there has made his home ever since, he and his wife thus being pioneers of that part of the county, having been residents there since the days prior to the formal organization of Norman county as a separate civic entity, and have ever done well their part in promoting the interests of that part of the county in all proper ways. They have a fine farm of three hundred and sixty acres, twenty acres of which is timber land, and have one of the best-kept

farm plants in that neighborhood. In addition to his extensive farming interests, Mr. Nereson has taken an active interest in the general business affairs of the community, helped organize the Farmers Elevator Company at Gary and also has shares in the creamery company and in the telephone company at Gary.

On May 14, 1878, at Lake Park, in the neighboring county of Becker, Nere J. Nereson was united in marriage to Thilda H. Gunderson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway on January 1, 1861, daughter of Herman and Anna (Olson) Gunderson, who came to Minnesota and became pioneers in Norman county, substantial farming people in the neighborhood of Gary. Herman Gunderson and wife were the parents of nine children, of whom Mrs. Nereson was the third in order of birth, and Gunder, Ole (deceased), Lars, Herman, Erick, Edward, Annie and Sophia, residents of this section of the Red River valley. To Mr. and Mrs. Nereson ten children have been born, namely: Annie, George, Albert, Nora (deceased), Henry, Thea, Arthur, Obed, Gladys and Lloyd. The Neresons are members of the United Norwegian Lutheran church at Gary and take a proper interest in church work and in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

EVANS N. GARDEN.

The late Evans N. Garden, who died on November 1, 1917, was one of the real pioneers of Norman county and the proprietor of a well-kept and profitably cultivated farm in Sundahl township, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 27, 1859, son of Halvor and Ingbor (Opdahl) Garden, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who had come to this country with their respective parents in the days of their youth and had married in Iowa. Halvor Garden became a substantial farmer in Winneshiek county, where he established his home. He and his wife were the parents of twelve children, of whom the late Evans N. Garden was the third in order of birth, the others being as follow: Laura (deceased), William, Jennetta, Emma, Silicia (deceased), Mary, Anna, Lillie (deceased), Edward Lorenzo, Halvor and Ida Rosella (deceased). Of these children, Edward L. is now engaged in the hardware business in North Dakota. The old home farm in Winneshiek county is now occupied by the daughter, Miss Mary Garden.

In 1880 Evans N. Garden came up here into the Red River country and homesteaded a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Bear

Park township, Norman county, and sold the homestead and bought one hundred and sixty acres in Sundahl township and established his home on that place and continued to live there to the end of his life, having developed one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general grain farming, Mr. Garden gave considerable attention to the raising of live stock and did well in his operations. Mr. Garden had an interest in the telephone lines at Fertile and at Garden Valley and took a general interest in the affairs of the community. For nine years he served as a member of the school board in his home district and in other ways gave of his time and energies to the public service.

On December 18, 1884, at old Sundahl church, Evans N. Garden was united in marriage to Kari Milsten, who was born at Norway, daughter of Erick and Kari Milsten, and to that union nine children were born, namely: Ella, Ida, Herbert (deceased), Genevieve, Emma, Halvor, Mary Ruth (deceased), Mary Susanna and Lillie. Of these children, Ella, Ida and Genevieve are married and live in the neighborhood of the old home, while the others are at home, all taking a part in the operation of the home farm. Mrs. Garden and family have a very pleasant home and have ever given their interested attention to the good works and general social activities of the community of which she has been a part since pioneer days. Mr. Garden was a janitor at the Sundahl church for thirteen years.

LARS MELBOSTAD.

Lars Melbostad, one of the recent settlers of Mary township, Norman county, where he carries on general diversified farming and stock raising, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, May 16, 1861, a son of Gubraun and Anna (Valose) Melbostad, both of whom were natives of Norway. The former came to America in an early day and here met Anna Valose, who became his wife. They settled in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where the former owned two hundred acres of good land, a homestead. There both spent the rest of their days, the father dying in 1898, at the age of sixty-six years and the mother's death occurring in 1892, she being three years younger than her husband. The father was active in the civic affairs of his community in Winneshiek county, for he served there for many years on the school board. They were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest, the others being: George, married and

now living on the old homestead in Iowa; Martin, married and also living in Iowa; Goro, a widow, residing in Spring Grove, Minnesota; Chester, a farmer in Mary township, Norman county; Mary, the wife of Ole Tweeten, living at Spring Grove, Minnesota; Gena, married and living at Parklin, Washington, and Margarette, the wife of Ole Ellingson, residing in Spring Grove.

Lars Melbostad was reared to manhood on the old home place in Winnechick county, Iowa, where he attended the public schools, which training comprised his formal education. He remained on the old place, working with his father, until he was twenty-three years of age, at which time he was married. In 1895, two years after his marriage, he brought his family up to Norman county, Minnesota, and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in section 28, Mary township, on which he made all improvements and carried on general farming until 1904. In that year, he sold out his holding and removed to Perley, Norman county, where he was engaged for four or five years in the livery business, after which period he went to North Dakota, where he owned land, which he sold in 1910 and returned to Norman county. At first he bought land in Mary township, but later he purchased the tract on which he lives at present, one hundred sixty acres in section 20, Lee township. When Mr. Melbostad came to this farm, he found it entirely unimproved, but he set to work with a will and now has a splendid farm plant, including a fine new comfortable farm house. Here on his excellent farm, Mr. Melbostad carries on general diversified farming and stock raising, hogs and cattle.

To other business activities has Mr. Melbostad given his time and attention. He is a stockholder in the First State Bank at Perley, and also owns shares in the creamery and Farmers Elevator at that place. At one time he was the owner of some building lots at Perley.

On September 12, 1885, Mr. Melbostad was united in marriage to Clara Olson, who was born at Spring Grove, Minnesota, April 1, 1866, a daughter of Ole and Ragnild (Taasensen) Olson, who were natives of Norway, from which they immigrated to this country, settling in Spring Grove. To this union ten children have been born, as follow: Anna, the wife of James Milligan, a member of the police department at Fargo, North Dakota; Emma, Cora, Agnes, Leland, Ruth and Oscar, all of whom are at home; and three others who are dead. Mr. and Mrs. Melbostad are consistent and conscientious members of the Botainia Norwegian Lutheran church, and according to the precepts of this denomination they have reared their children. Mr. Melbostad has never held but one public office, that of school

director, while he lived in Mary township. Even though he is not given to office seeking, his hearty co-operation with every movement which has for its aim the social and material betterment of his neighborhood, makes Mr. Melbostad a very valuable citizen to the community in which he lives.

LARS PAULSON.

In making up the annals of Norman county, proper mention must be made of the part the late Lars Paulson, the first settler in Sundahl township, took in the settlement of that county. He was a native of the kingdom of Norway, born there on July 14, 1851, and grew to manhood there, remaining in his native land until 1879, in which year he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Iowa, shortly afterward coming up into Minnesota and proceeding on up into the Red River country, settling in what, in 1881, became organized as Norman county. Upon his arrival here he homesteaded a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Sundahl township, the extreme northeast township of the county, and not long afterward married Caroline Pederson and established his permanent home on that place. He planted shade and fruit trees, erected substantial buildings and in due time had a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of two hundred and forty acres. On that place he spent the rest of his life, one of the substantial and influential pioneers of that community, his death occurring there on December 12, 1895. To Lars and Caroline Paulson six children were born, namely: Bertha, Paul, Ole, Maria, Lars and Caroline, the last two of whom are twins. The daughters are married except Caroline, and Maria, the fourth in order of birth, died in Montana. Ole has served a term of service as a member of the United States marine corps, but is now at home.

On June 11, 1897, Mrs. Caroline Paulson, widow of Lads Paulson, married Halvor Peterson, who was born in Norway on November 27, 1856, son of Peter Jenson and Mollie (Halvor) Peterson, the former of whom died in his native land and the latter of whom is still living there at a ripe old age. Peter Jenson was a farmer and he and his wife were the parents of nine children, Jens, Anna, Halvor, Ingeborg, Peter, John, Lars, Ole and Michael. Anna lives in South Dakota and Ingeborg lives in North Dakota. Of these children, Halvor, Peter and John came to Minnesota and the two latter died here. The others are still living in Norway. To Halvor Peter-

son and wife have been born two children, Gunder and Hannah. Halvor Peterson was previously married and was the father of one son named Peter. Mrs. Peterson has shares in the companies operating the telephone lines at Gary and at Sundahl and also owns an interest in a store at the latter place. Mr. Peterson is a shareholder in the local elevator company at Flaming. The family have a very pleasant home in Sundahl township and the members of the same take a proper interest in the community's general social affairs. Mr. Peterson takes a good citizen's interest in political affairs, but has not been an office seeker.

ELLING H. FLOM

Elling H. Flom, one of the real pioneers of Norman county and a substantial retired farmer of Flom township, proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred and fifty acres in section 21 of that township, where he has made his home since the early eighties, is a native of the state of Iowa, but has been a resident of the Red River country since he was sixteen years of age. He was born on a pioneer farm in Winneshiek county, Iowa, September 15, 1858, son of Hans Flom, who came up into Minnesota with his family in 1874 and settled in what later came to be organized as Flom township, Norman county, that township being named in his honor when the petition for its organization was granted by the county commissioners.

As noted above, Elling H. Flom was sixteen years of age when he came up here into the Red River Valley with his father in 1874. He had received his schooling in Iowa and upon coming here became a valued aid to his father in the labors of improving and developing the home place. In 1882 he proved up a pre-emption claim to a quarter of a section of land in section 12 of Flom township and eight or nine months later sold the same and bought his present farm of two hundred and fifty acres in section 21 of that same township. When he took possession of that place forty-five acres of it had been "broken" and the task of bringing under cultivation the remainder of the tract thus fell upon his shoulders, a no inconsiderable task, by the way. Though there was some natural timber on the place, Mr. Flom did considerable tree planting as a wind-break measure, and the groves he planted are now attractive features of the landscape thereabout. He erected new buildings on the place and has added to the same from time to time until now he has one of the best-kept farm plants in that part of the

county. For some time past Mr. Flom has been living practically retired from the active labors of the farm, his son Edwin assuming the responsibility of running the place. Ever since the organization of his home township Mr. Flom has been a member of the board of township supervisors and is now treasurer of the same. For many years he has also been a member of the school board, for eighteen years a director, and is now also treasurer of that board. He is a stockholder in the Flom Bank and in other ways has given his active attention to the general business affairs of the community, in the development of which he has been a prominent participant since the very beginning of settlement there.

On December 19, 1882, Elling H. Flom was united in marriage to Oleanna Olson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway in 1863 and who had come to this country with her parents when she was eighteen years of age, and to this union nine children have been born, namely: Hans M., who is now a landowner in North Dakota; Marie Alma, who also owns land in North Dakota; Gunda Catherine, also a North Dakota landowner; Anthony, a landowner in Montana; Edwin, who is renting and farming the old home place in Flom township; Olga Berthina, a member of Norman county's public-school teaching force, and Berton, Mildred and Kenneth, at home. The Floms have a very pleasant home and have ever given their interested attention to the community's general social affairs. They are members of the Wild Rice church and Mr. Flom was formerly and for years a member of the board of trustees of that congregation.

GUSTAV O. EEG.

Gary, one of the progressive and up-to-date towns of Norman county, has many men who have won distinction in their various walks of life, and have had much to do with the growth and the development of the district. Among the number who have had an influential effect on the business development of the community, it is well to mention Gustav O. Eeg, a well-known and prominent banker of the town, who was born in Becker county, Minnesota, on August 9, 1871, and is the son of Olaus and Johannah (Christopherson) Eeg.

Olaus and Johannah Eeg were both born in Norway, where they received their education in the public schools and there they grew to manhood and womanhood and were married. After their marriage

they established their home in the land of their nativity, where they continued to live for a time. They then decided in the year 1864, that they would come to America, where they might better obtain a home for themselves and those dependent upon them. On their arrival in the United States, they at once came to Minnesota, and located in Fillmore county, where they remained for a time, after which they moved to Becker county in 1871. There they established their home on a farm and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1879, when they came to Norman county. Here they were among the first settlers in the county, and were the first to homestead in Waukon township. It was here that they established their home on one hundred and sixty acres of land, which they later increased to two hundred and forty. The territory was a lonely place at that time. There were no settlers and the broad prairie, with here and there a tract of wooded land, was a desolate place for the little family to locate. They were anxious to obtain a home for themselves, and they were willing to undergo all the hardships of the early pioneer life. A typical pioneer house was erected, in which the family lived, while the farm was undergoing transformation from the wild tract to one of the well developed farms of the state. Later improvements were made and here the father engaged in general farming and stockraising until the time of his death.

Olaus Eeg was a man of much ability and wielded a great influence in the community in which he lived, and where he was held in the highest regard and esteem by all. He assisted in the organization of the township and had much to do with the early civic life of the district. Coming to the county, as he did when there were but few settlers and the territory as a whole was one undeveloped tract, he experienced many of the hardships of the new settler, and it was only by his and his wife's determined effort that they succeeded in their fondest hopes to make a home in the new land. They were the parents of the following children: Chrestian, Karen, Gustav and Anna, both the former and the latter are now deceased. Both Mr. and Mrs. Eeg were active members of the Lutheran church and took the greatest interest in all the services of the church, and their children were reared in the faith of the same church and were at all times taught to live the lives of true men and women. There were few people in the community, that had a greater influence for the good of the new district, than had Mr. and Mrs. Eeg. Their great interest in all moral questions, as well as their true patriotic spirit, together with their desire to make a home worthy of their highest efforts, gave them a commanding influence in the community. Having experienced the lonely life of the plains, during their early days, they

were ever ready to assist the new settler in his efforts to obtain a home for himself and family. Their lives were always devoted to the interests of their family and the community in which they lived and in which they took such an active interest.

Gustav O. Eeg received his early education in the pioneer schools of Becker county, Minnesota, and there grew to manhood on the home farm, where as a lad he assisted with the work on the farm, and learned the principles of successful farming, under the direction of his father, one of the successful men of the county. After reaching man's estate he engaged in the work of a farmer and stockman for five years, on the old farm. For the next five years he was engaged in the lumber business at Fertile and Hellock, Minnesota, and although he met with much success in the venture, he returned to the farm, where he remained for five years. In 1915 he organized the Farmer's State Bank, and on the completion of the organization he was elected president of the institution, which position he has since filled. The same year that he organized the bank, he with others established the Gary Implement Company, which has done an extensive business, and is one of the strong business concerns of the town. They carry a complete line of all kinds of farm implements, and by their hustling spirit, they have developed a large trade. The bank under the guidance of Mr. Eeg, has grown to an institution of large proportions, and is today recognized as one of the strong banking houses of this section of the county.

Mr. Eeg still owns the old homestead and has always taken much interest in the agricultural development of the county. He is a man who has taken the keenest interest in the civic life of his home community, and has at various times been elected to every office in the township. To his official life he gave the same care and attention that he did to his own personal business, and because of his progressive spirit and excellent judgment, he rendered valuable service to his home township, and to him is due much of the credit for the growth and advancement of the district. His interests were those of the township, and one of his greatest ambitions was to carry on the work of improvement and growth, that had been started by his father. Not alone were his interests manifested in the affairs of the township, but in the affairs of the village, where he has also taken an active interest and has held some of the offices of importance. His life has been devoted not alone to his own interests, but to the interests of the district in which he has lived for so many years, and where he is held in the highest regard and esteem by all.

In February, 1904, Gustav O. Eeg was united in marriage to Clara Berg, a native of Waukon township, Norman county, and the daughter of Arne K. Berg and wife, well-known residents of the county. To this union the following children have been born: Oma, Evelyn, Mildred, Gladwin and Carmen, all of whom are now living. Mr. and Mrs. Eeg are active members of the United Lutheran church, in which they have for many years taken a prominent part, and are among the substantial subscribers to the support of the local church. Few people in the county have taken a greater interest in the social, educational, civic and religious life, than have Mr. and Mrs. Eeg.

HERMAN GRIEWE

Herman Griewe, a well-known general farmer, of Pleasant View township, Norman county, where he is the owner, jointly with his brother Henry, of a tract of land and where he also rents, was born in 1883 on the place which he now occupies. He is a son of William and Mary (Berends) Griewe, both natives of Germany.

William Griewe was born in Germany in 1845 and immigrated to the United States in 1877, first locating at Red Wing, Minnesota, where he remained for two years, at the end of which time he came to Pleasant View township, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 24. He later bought an additional "forty" and still later added one hundred and forty acres, the latter being located in Green Meadow township. Most of the land was swampy and wild and he immediately set to work to improve and develop it, finally getting it into good shape, in the early stages of his labors using oxen to assist in working the place. Mr. Griewe was a citizen of much enterprise and held shares in the local creamery and elevator. He was a member of the German Lutheran church and served as deacon and trustee of the same. His wife, Mary Berends, was born in Germany in 1856 and was married after coming to this country. She now lives in Detroit, Minnesota, with a daughter, Mrs. William Kahle. Her husband died in the winter of 1914, at the age of sixty-nine years. They were the parents of the following children: Henry, married, farms south of the home place; William, deceased; Herman, the subject of this sketch; Mrs. William Kahle; Fred, a carpenter, living in Ada, and Dora, living with her brother, Fred.

Herman Griewe was educated in the schools of Pleasant View township and was reared on the home farm, where he learned the rudiments of the farming industry under his father's guidance. About 1911 he and his brother, Henry, bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Pleasant View township, in addition to his share in this tract Herman also rents, in his own right, two hundred and seventy-five acres in the same township. He is now actively engaged in general farming and has done very well, and has on the place for breeding purposes, a full-blooded bull. He is known as one of the progressive farmers of the district, his agricultural operations being carried on according to modern methods.

Herman Griewe was united in marriage to Hulda Habedank, who was born in March, 1896, in Green Meadow township, a daughter of August and Mary Habedank. Her parents reside in Ada, where they are the owners of a comfortable home, August Habedank also being the owner of a choice farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Green Meadow township, section 18. On October 22, 1917, a pair of boys (twins) came to brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Griewe. Their names are Edwin and Edward Griewe. Mr. and Mrs. Griewe take an active part in the general social affairs of the community, ever anxious to promote all movements designed to forward the good of their neighborhood and township.

KNUT E. HEDAHL.

Knut E. Hedahl, a well-known farmer of Wild Rice township, where he owns one-half section of fine farming land, was born at Valdres, Norway, on August 29, 1860, the son of Erick O. and Maret (Torgedatter) Hedahlen, natives of Valdres, Norway, where they lived and died, the father being a farmer there. They were the parents of six children, namely: Segre, still in Norway; Ole, living in Wild Rice township, Norman county; Torget who lives in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Knut E., the subject of this review; Nels, who resides in Mercer, North Dakota, and Maret, living in Tacoma, Washington.

After Knut E. Hedahl had received his early education in the land of his nativity, and had reached the age of twenty-two years, he decided to emigrate to America which meant opportunity to him as an agriculturalist. In 1882 he came directly from Christiania, Norway, to Ada, Minnesota, where he worked on farms in the vicinity for three or four years until he

had acquired enough money to buy eighty acres of state land in Wild Rice township, where his brother Ole now lives; this land being at the time of its purchase wild and unbroken. He put it in a state of cultivation, raised buildings and planted trees, thus bringing it to an admirable state of improvement. After residing there for about twenty years, he sold this tract to his brother, Ole, in 1905 or 1906, and bought one hundred sixty acres of the same section in which lies the eighty which now belongs to his brother. By perseverance and hard work he was enabled later to extend his holdings by the addition of another one hundred sixty acres, thus making him one of the chief landowners of the township. Mr. Hedahl has not been content with being a mere land holder, for he has all of these years been steadily improving his possessions; however, he has placed most of the farm buildings on the home place, which comprises the first quarter section he bought. His agricultural pursuits are limited to general farming and stock raising.

In 1890 Mr. Hedahl married Anna Martinson, who was born at Bergen, Norway, on December 18, 1871, the daughter of Martinus and Gert-rude Olsen, and to this union have been born the following children: Eddie, Ella, Oscar, Clarence, Minnie, and Elmer, all of whom are living. The family are active members of the Lutheran church and in the furtherance of the interests of this creed and of Christianity they have always been deeply interested, Mr. Hedahl helping start the first church in Twin Valley. In addition to his activities in the church, Mr. Hedahl has been a power in educational and civil affairs, having been a member of the township board for more than five years and is still an incumbent, and was the treasurer of the old school district board before he helped to organize school district, No. 96.

JAKOB J. LARSON.

Jakob J. Larson, the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of Wild Rice township land and a quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, was born at Helgeland, Norway, on October 5, 1860, the son of Lars Johan and Anne Jacobson, both natives of Norway, where they lived and died, the father being a farmer. Lars Jacobson was married twice, and Jakob J. Larson was the only child by the second wife.

In his childhood Mr. Larson attended school in Norway and, as he grew to manhood, he derived valuable experience on his father's farm which he used handily when he started the plow in the raw prairie in the New

World. In 1880 when he was twenty years old, Mr. Larson emigrated to America, coming directly to Swedish Grove, Kandiyohi or Meeker county, Minnesota, and worked in those counties for two years. In October, 1882, Mr. Larson came northward to Norman county and located on a farm one mile west of Twin Valley, which was comprised of one quarter section of disputed land. There on the bare prairie he erected his house and farm buildings, around which he planted a grove. Later he homesteaded another quarter section in Beltrami county, Minnesota, which the government allowed him without his having to reside on it for the required number of years, in lieu of the disputed land which he later had to buy from the railroad. Mr. Larson carries on general farming and in his pursuits he is a careful manager and industrious man.

In June, 1883, Mr. Larson was united in marriage to Julia Nerison, who was born in Nicollet county, Minnesota, on April 7, 1861, and died August 3, 1888, the daughter of Gunder and Torbjr Nerison. By her, his first wife, he has three children: Augusta, George, and John. Mr. Larson was married the second time on December 13, 1890, when Elsie Hanson, who was born in Norway, January 15, 1867, the daughter of Hans and Jacobine Peterson, became his wife. To this union have been born five sons, namely: Helmer, Albin, Emil, William and Bennie, and three daughters, namely: Nora, Hilda and Dagny. Mr. Larson and family are active and consistent members of the Lutheran church, he having helped to organize the first church in Twin Valley.

Mr. Larson's activity has not been entirely limited to agriculture, in the pursuit of which he has been so successful, but he has branched out into business, being one of the organizers of the creamery at Twin Valley.

JOHN TORSKE.

John Torske, a well-known and prominent merchant of Borup, Norman county, was born in Norway on January 3, 1871, and is a son of John and Bridt (Hoven) Torske, also natives of Norway and were there educated in the schools and later married. They were of the farming class, and after their marriage they established their home on a farm and there the father lived until the time of his death some years ago. The mother is still living at her home in her native land. They were ever active members of the

Lutheran church and were among the highly respected people of the district in which they lived. They were the parents of the following children: Erick, Hans, John, Lars, Anna and Edward, all of whom are still living.

John Torske received his education in the schools of Norway and one year in the high school. He was reared on the home farm and remained a resident of the land of his birth until he was seventeen years of age, when in 1888, he felt that there were better opportunities for him in the land of America, where many of his countrymen had located and were meeting with some measure of success. Having decided to cast his lot in the new land, he did not hesitate, and sailed for the United States. He first located at Grand Forks, North Dakota, but did not remain there long. He then went to Osnaabrock, that state, and there he worked as a farm hand for a time, and then learned the trade of a harness maker, and worked at the trade in that and other places for some years. His desire was to have a business of his own and soon established a shop at Inkster, North Dakota. This business he operated for some years, when he sold, and returned to Norway on a visit in 1894. He soon returned to the land of his adoption and worked at his trade for a year, and then he located at Frazee, Minnesota, where he clerked in the store of Baer Brothers for five years. In 1901 he again became desirous of having a business of his own, and with his brother, Hans, he came to Bomp, Norman county, where they erected the present substantial business block, forty-four by sixty-two feet, and engaged in the mercantile business, under the firm name of Torske Brothers. Here they built up a splendid trade, and had the confidence and respect of the entire public, for their honest and business-like methods. The business continued under this name until 1913, when the brother retired and Mr. Torske became the sole owner, and has since continued the business.

In 1897 John Torske was united in marriage to Anna Taber, a native of Germany, where she was educated and later came to the United States. To this union the following children were born: Bertha, Luella, Edna, Jennings, Harold, Alice, Kermit and Norman, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Torske are members of the Lutheran church, and have ever taken an active interest in the success and growth of the local society, to which they are liberal subscribers. They are a most hospitable people and most excellent citizens, and are held in the highest regard by all.

John Torske is a splendid example of a self-made man, and to himself he owes his success in life. Coming to America when sixteen years of age, alone and without funds, to seek a home in a strange land, he has succeeded beyond his highest expectations. Reared amid the frugal surroundings of

his early home, he received a good education and was taught the lessons of honesty, economy and industry. These represented the capital that he brought with him to the new country, and they have been to him more than money to many a young man starting out in life. He has been a hard worker at all times, and did well the task that he had in hand. Whether on the farm, in the shop or in the store as a clerk, he felt the dignity of his position, and his highest ambition was to do his work to the best of his ability. He has always taken a keen interest in local affairs and has been prominent in local politics.

GJERT J. KVIDT.

Gjert J. Kvidt, a prosperous farmer of Flom township, Norman county, where he owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and fifty-two acres, which he has developed from the raw prairie, was born in Norway, August 11, 1862, a son of Johanes and Margretta (Urdahl) Kvidt, both of whom are natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and reared their family. Feeling that they could establish themselves comfortably in America, on the soil of the Northwest, of which they had heard much from their friends and relatives who had come to this country, they immigrated to this country in 1869 and settled in Houston county, this state, and lived there for nine years. In 1878 they with four sons and one daughter moved to the Red River valley and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Flom township, Norman county, where they have continued to live. Several years ago, they sold a part of their holding to their son, the subject of this review, and they have continued to live here with him, still retaining forty acres of their original tract, on which they raise stock. They are the parents of five children, all of whom are living here in Norman county; they are as follow: Engbert, farmer in section 8, this township; Gjert J., the subject of this review; Jens, a farmer of section 12, this township; Anna, now Mrs. Nels Albertson, and Martin, who farms in section 6, this township.

Gjert J. Kvidt received his only schooling in the common schools in Houston county. After his parents had come to this county he contributed his industry to the development of the family holding, and finally, about twenty-five years ago, he bought a part of his father's farm and has continued to farm it successfully since. The part of the home farm, which he

bought was entirely unimproved, and by his perseverance and thrift, he has made it what it is, a fine farm well-cultivated and improved by the fine set of buildings and grove. In the early years of his residence on his holding, he used oxen for draught animals, and when he marketed his grain, he was compelled to drive these patient but plodding beasts to Ada, a journey of twenty-three miles, which took an entire day. He has three horses now, and he does most of his farm work with machinery. He carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture and, in addition to this, he raises some stock.

Mr. Kvidt has never married, but he makes his home here with his father and mother. He is a member of the Wild Rice Norwegian Lutheran church, and takes a proper interest in the affairs of the congregation. Politically, he is an advocate of Republican principles and policies, but he has never sought after public office. This does not mean that he takes no part in the civic, social, business and political affairs of the community, for when any movement is instituted here with the object of bettering the community in any of these phases, it is assured of Mr. Kvidt's hearty support and co-operation. Although he has not sought any office, Mr. Kvidt has served as clerk for his school district for sixteen years and is still holding the office. In 1910 he also took the United States census in Flom township.

MARTINUS AASGAARD.

The late Martinus Aasgaard, for years one of the best-known and most progressive farmers and stockmen of Home Lake township, Norman county, the proprietor of a fine farm in that neighborhood and one of the early settlers of that part of the county, was a native of Norway, born in that country in 1858, but had been a resident of America since he was eleven years old. In 1869 Martinus Aasgaard came to the United States and proceeded on out to Wisconsin, where he was married in 1884 and in April of the following year moved to Home Lake, all his worldly possessions being represented by fifty dollars in cash. His brother, Ole, was teaching school in Home Lake township and he procured a team and he and his wife rode to John Homelvig's place, near Home Lake, where his brother Ole was boarding. He returned the team to Ada, making the return journey to Home Lake on foot, covering twenty-six miles, largely covered by swamps and water.

In the spring of 1886 Martinus Aasgaard homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 26, Home Lake township, and in 1898 he bought forty acres adjoining the original tract. He carried out an extensive series of improvements, including new buildings, the erection of fences and the setting out of groves. For several years Mr. Aasgaard had taken a practical interest in public affairs and served as supervisor to the township board and acted as clerk of the school board. He helped to organize the creamery at Home Lake and was a stockholder in that concern. He was a lifelong member of the Wild Rice Synod church and served the congregation as trustee for several years. He died in 1904 at the age of forty-six years.

In 1884 Martinus Aasgaard was united in marriage to Maria Larson, a native of Norway, born in 1863, and who came with her parents to America when she was a child of three years old. Her father died in 1916 and her mother died in 1896. The voyage across the Atlantic occupied thirteen weeks. Mrs. Aasgaard is still living in section 26, Home Lake township, the holding being the original two hundred acres which her husband purchased when he came to Norman county. Martinus Aasgaard and wife were the parents of nine children, of whom two are dead. Mrs. Maria Aasgaard is now fifty-four years old. The first year the Aasgaards spent in this county was one of hardship; credit was difficult to obtain, and money was still more difficult to secure. Lawrence, the oldest of the children, was born on the old homestead, August 30, 1885, and educated in the schools of Home Lake township and was reared on his father's place, where he grew up to the life of a farmer. In 1909 he bought his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres in section 13, Home Lake township, and on which he has effected a number of valuable improvements, and on that place he is actively engaged in general farming and stock raising and is doing very well. Mr. Aasgaard does not confine all his attention to agricultural affairs and gives largely of his time to public interests. He has been clerk to the township board since 1910 and clerk to the school board since the same year, serving the people with ability. He helped to organize the creamery at Syre and is now secretary to that undertaking. He is a director of the Flom Mutual Fire Insurance Company; secretary of the Syre Percheron Horse Company, and president of the Home Lake Farmers Club.

In 1909 Lawrence Aasgaard was united in marriage to Hannah Albertson, who was born in 1887 on her father's farm in Home Lake township, her parents being now residing in Flom township. To this union two children have been born, Milton, born on June 20, 1910, and Alice, June

1, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Aasgaard take a proper part in the general social affairs of their home community, ever helpful in all ways tending to the welfare of the township and county.

Inez Aasgaard was born on June 24, 1887, and was married in 1908 to Warner Johnson. To this union three children have been born, Melvin, Bernice and Walter. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson own a hundred-and-sixty-acre farm in section 24, Home Lake township, where they are at present farming. Mina Aasgaard was born on April 29, 1891; was married in 1912 to Ole Nysetvold. To this union three children have been born, Gladys, Miles and Orvin. Mr. and Mrs. Nysetvold reside at Twin Valley; Mr. Nysetvold is a carpenter by trade. Joseph Oliver Aasgaard was born on August 2, 1893, and is at present at home on his mother's farm. Almer Melvin Aasgaard was born on July 10, 1895, and is also at present at home, but is drafted and is liable to be called to serve his country at any time. Julia Aasgaard was born on September 17, 1897, and is at home with her mother. Clarence Aasgaard, the youngest child, was born on December 10, 1900, and is also at home with his mother.

CHRIS N. JUHL.

Chris N. Juhl, one of the best known business men of Fossum township, now and for many years connected with the milling industry, manager of the Faith Milling Company, which he helped to organize in 1910, is a native of the kingdom of Denmark, but has been a resident of the United States for the past twenty-five years. He was born on December 26, 1872, a son of N. E. and M. E. Juhl, both also born in Denmark, where the former died in 1915, throughout his active life being engaged in farming, and where his widow is still living.

Chris N. Juhl was educated in the schools of Denmark and in that country learned the flour-milling trade. In 1892, at the age of twenty years, he immigrated to the United States, going, on arrival, to the state of Iowa, where he worked on a farm for one year, at the end of which time he moved to Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, and there worked for Johnson & Marshall in the flour-milling business, remaining in that employment for about seven years. His next move was to Atwater, Minnesota, where he continued in the milling business, and was head miller of the Atwater Milling Company for about ten years, going thence to Terrebonne, this state, and bought a

half interest in the Terrebonne mill, and continued to work in that place for three years. He then sold his interest in that concern and bought half the interest in the Faith mill, Alfred Melston buying the other half, and the mill became known as the Juhl & Melston Mill for some time. Mr. Juhl then bought out his partner's interest and continued to carry on the mill on his own account until May, 1916, when it burned. He then decided to organize a stock company, to be known as the Faith Milling Company and the present splendid building was erected, Mr. Juhl taking over the responsible position of manager, the duties of which he is still carrying out. The company now enjoys a flourishing trade and the product of the mill has a wide market, being in demand outside the confines of the county, with every prospect of an expanding trade in the immediate future.

In 1899 Chris N. Juhl was united in marriage to Mary Hagglund, born in Minnesota, a daughter of P. O. Hagglund and wife, and to this union two children have been born, Harvey and Erma, both living. The Juhl family are members of the Lutheran church and are earnest supporters of all its good works, as well as works tending to the welfare of the community in which they live. Mr. Juhl takes a good citizen's part in public affairs, always supporting such measures as are calculated to improve and advance the general welfare of the people, but he has never been a seeker after public office.

CONRAD I. GRINA.

Of the successful and prominent business men of Borup, Norman county, and a native son of the state, is Conrad I. Grina, who was born in Otter Tail county, on May 25, 1880, and is a son of Iver O. and Olena L. (Ohe) Grina.

Iver O. Grina is a native of Hadeland, Norway and is a son of Ole H. and Martha O. (Moger) Grina. Iver O. Grina was born on April 1, 1851, and at the age of three years was brought by his parents to America in the year 1854. The parents had been educated and reared in Norway, and a few years after their marriage, decided to settle in the United States, which they reached after a voyage of fifteen weeks. Soon after their arrival in this country, they went to the state of Iowa, where Mr. Grina worked as a farm hand for a time in Clayton county. He was desirous of making a home for himself and family, and with this desire and determination to seize every opportunity for advancement, he was in a short time in a posi-

tion to buy a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. The tract at the time he made the purchase was one of the undeveloped tracts of wild prairie land in Clinton county, but in time he developed and improved it, and there he engaged in general farming for twenty years, when he came to Otter Tail county, to join his son, Iver O. After his arrival in Otter Tail county, Ole H. Grina purchased two hundred and fifty acres of land in Norwegian township, thirty-four acres of which was in timber, and it was while clearing this tract of land, that he was taken ill and died. He was possessed of much business acumen; he was a hard worker and a splendid manager, and one who took great interest in all local affairs, and was held in high regard by all. His first wife died in the year 1874, and he was later married to Betsey O. Hougthvet, who has since died. By the first marriage Mr. Grina was the father of the following children: Hans, Ole, Iver O., Peter, Martin, Ellen, Mary and Mary. Hans, now deceased, was a successful farmer of Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county; Ole is a retired farmer of Pelican Rapids; Peter was engaged in general farming for a number of years in North Dakota and is now living retired in that state; Martin is engaged in farming in North Dakota; Ellen died while the family was living in the state of Iowa, and the two Marys are now deceased, the first having died in Iowa and the second passed away when young, in the state of Minnesota.

Iver O. Grina received his education in the schools of Iowa, and was reared on the home farm, where he received the sturdy discipline that was of much use to him in after life. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, when he came to Minnesota, where he purchased the homestead owned by the Hans Brothers, in Trondhjem township, Otter Tail county. The tract, which was at that time only partially improved, was located in section 21, and was brought to a high state of development and improvement by much hard work. This homestead was later increased by the addition of one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land, which adjoined the original tract. Here Mr. Grina engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1914, when he sold the place and purchased the farm that his father owned in Norwegian township. He never moved to his new farm, but rents the same to his son, Joseph, and the year that he made the purchase he retired from the more active duties of farm life and moved to Pelican Rapids, where he has a splendid modern home.

On July 17, 1872, Iver O. Grina was united in marriage to Olena L. Ohe, the daughter of Lars and Ingebor (Waterid) Ohe, who were among the early settlers of Erhard Grove township. To this union the following children were born: Ole, Lars, Melvin, Conrad L., Joseph, Joseph, Inga,

Theodore and Emma. Ole is engaged in the lumber business at Halstad, Minnesota; Lars is also interested in the lumber business and is located at Felton, Minnesota; Melvin is an implement, hardware and lumber dealer at Erhard; the first-born Joseph died in infancy, and the second is now engaged in general farming on the father's place; Inga is married at Erhard, Minnesota; Theodore is engaged in the hardware and implement business with his father at Underwood, Minnesota, and Emma is at home with her father. The mother of these children died on February 22, 1914. Mr. and Mrs. Grina were long members of the Lutheran church, and were prominent in all religious work of their locality. Mr. Grina has always been an enthusiastic member of the Republican party, and has served in several of the local offices. He was in 1913, one of the organizers of the Erhard State Bank, and has served as one of its most efficient directors.

Conrad I. Grina received his education in the schools of Otter Tail county, where he grew to manhood on the home farm. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, and became familiar with all the duties of farm life. In the year 1900, he left the home farm and located in Felton, Clay county, Minnesota, where he remained but a few months, when he came to Borup, where he remained for a time, and was later located in various places for the next two years. He then returned to Borup as the manager of the Steenerson Brothers Lumber Company, which position he still holds.

In 1909 Conrad I. Grina was married to Alma Haaver, of Cavalier county, North Dakota, and the daughter of L. H. Haaver and wife, prominent residents of the district. To this union three children have been born: Maxine Odell, Cameron Irvin Leroy and Evelyn Frances.

OLAF H. HENDRICKSON.

A man who is prominently connected with the civil affairs and co-operative business interests of Sundahl township, Norman county, where he is the proprietor and operator of a fine farm of one hundred sixty acres of farming land, is Olaf H. Hendrickson, who was born near La Crosse, Wisconsin, February 10, 1868, a son of Hans and Anna (Olson) Hendrickson, both natives of Norway. After the death of his father in Norway, Hans Hendrickson and two sisters immigrated to America in 1855 and settled in the same community where Olaf H. Hendrickson was born. The mother

came to America with her parents about the same time and settled near La Crosse in the same community in which Hans Hendrickson settled. Her parents were Ole and Carrie Olson, whose deaths occurred in Swift county, Minnesota. About six years after Hans Hendrickson came to America, Ft. Sumter was fired upon and the nation was plunged into the Civil War, and Mr. Hendrickson enlisted in a Wisconsin regiment, thus evincing his devotion to his adopted country. The elder Hendrickson and wife were the parents of six children, of whom the subject of this review is second in order of birth, the others being: Gustava, Adolph, Clara, deceased; Ida and Henry still living. In 1860 the parents removed to Floyd county, Iowa, where they lived until their deaths occurred, the father being a farmer. He was well-known and active in the civil affairs of Rock Grove township, Floyd county, having held several local offices. He and his wife were consistent and conscientious members of the Norwegian Lutheran church.

Olaf Hendrickson spent his boyhood on his father's farm in Iowa, where he received his elementary education in the common schools, and later he attended the St. Ansgar high school. As he approached manhood, he received a valuable training in practical agriculture on his father's farm which he helped to develop and this preparation was invaluable to him when he began farming on his own account in Floyd county, Iowa. He remained engaged in his agricultural operations in Floyd county until 1896, when he came to Polk county, Minnesota, where he farmed for two years. Not finding the land there to his liking, he came down into Norman county, where he purchased a quarter section in Sundahl township. Since this tract was entirely unimproved, he began erecting good farm buildings, including a comfortable farm house and excellent barn. Since the grove did not seem an adequate wind-break, he planted additional trees, and now has one of the best improved tracts in the neighborhood, on which he carries on a scientific form of diversified agriculture and raises graded Hereford cattle.

On October 13, 1892, Mr. Hendrickson married Tonetta Johnsrud, who was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, April 24, 1868, a daughter of John and Carrie (Lindley) Johnsrud, both natives of Norway who immigrated to this country in 1861 and settled in Mitchell county, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Hendrickson are the parents of eight children, namely: Cora, Hilda, Oliver, Clarence, Mabel, Alice, Ruth, and Clifford, all of whom are living. The parents are consistent and conscientious members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Sundahl and in the affairs of this congregation they take a deep interest, rearing their children according to this faith. Politically, Mr. Hendrickson is a staunch adherent of the Non-partisan party and is an ardent

advocate of its doctrines and policies. His good business sense and unimpeachable integrity have so commended him to his neighbors that he has frequently been called to local offices of trust, having served the residents of Sundahl township as road supervisor, township assessor for nine years and is now engrossed in the educational progress of his community as school clerk. The co-operative enterprises of his neighborhood have received his unstinted support and he helped to organize the Sundahl Mercantile Company, of which he is now manager.

JOHN A. DORSETH.

John A. Dorseth, who is engaged in the hardware, furniture and undertaking business at the village of Flom, in Norman county, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, February 25, 1871, son of Andrew H. and Helen (Amlien) Dorseth, natives of Norway, the former born at Toten, who came to this country in 1870 and became pioneer settlers in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they remained until 1879, when they came up into this part of Minnesota, where the former is still living, one of the best-known pioneers of Norman county.

Upon coming up here into the Red River country in 1879, Andrew Dorseth homesteaded a quarter of a section of land on the northern edge of Becker county, adjoining Norman county, and there established his home, remaining there until 1886, in which year he moved over into Flom township, Norman county, and settled on a farm in section 29 of that township, where his wife died in July, 1910, and where he is still living. He is a member of the Lutheran (Synod) church, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith. There were four of these children, the subject of this sketch, the third in order of birth, having two brothers, Hans and Andrew, and a sister, Augusta.

John A. Dorseth was but eight years of age when his parents came up here into the Red River country and he grew to manhood on the home farm, thoroughly familiar with pioneer conditions in this section and received his schooling in the schools of Flom township. As a young man he became engaged in well-drilling and farming and after his marriage established his home on the old homestead quarter section at the edge of Becker county, which he still owns and where he made his home for seven years, or until in May, 1903, when he left the farm and moved to the village of Flom,

where he became engaged in the general hardware, furniture and undertaking business and has ever since been thus engaged, his establishment being one of the best-known places of business in that thriving village. Mr. Dorseth also has given considerable attention to the general business affairs of the village and has served as a member of the board of directors of the Farmers State Bank of Flom, for two terms as treasurer of the Flom Creamery Company and for three years as secretary of the same. He served for about six years as justice of the peace and is the present constable of Flom township.

Mr. and Mrs. Dorseth, the latter of whom, before her marriage, was Louise Carlson, have six children, Adolph, Hilda, Anton, Laurence, Jonnette and Selma. The family are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take an interested part in church work.

JOHN DANIELSON.

The late John Danielson, for years one of the prosperous and highly esteemed pioneer farmers of Clay county and the proprietor of broad acres and a comfortable home in Moland township, was a native of Sweden, as was his wife, but had resided in this country since 1871, a pioneer of this section of the Red River valley. He was born in Kronsbergslau on August 2, 1838, and in 1864 was married in his native land to Johannah Peterson. In 1871 he and his wife left Sweden and came to Minnesota with a view to making a home for themselves in the new country. They secured a pony and an old buggy placed their few belongings in the vehicle and started out for Clay county, the wife riding and himself trudging along on foot. They neither understood nor could speak English and their experiences on this journey over the plains were laughable as well as pathetic. They arrived at Glyndon during the summer and Mr. Danielson secured employment on the reception building and shelter house which the railroad company was erecting at that place for the accommodation of emigrants. The wages thus secured provided for the winter and he also was able to buy a cow. He homesteaded in section 18, where he put up a sod house. He bought land in section 17 of Moland township, and he and his wife began their home-making in the new country. After a season of patient labor Mr. Danielson bought a yoke of oxen and with these began the improvement of his place, the result in due time becoming apparent in his broad, well-cultivated fields

and comfortable surroundings, the Danielson place in time becoming recognized as one of the best-kept farm plants in all that neighborhood. As Mr. Danielson prospered in his undertakings he added to his holdings until he became the owner of four hundred and eighty acres and was accounted one of the most substantial residents of that part of the county. He was a Republican, ever standing staunchly for the principles of that party, and took an active part in the general public affairs of his home township and of the county at large. On the pioneer farm on which they settled early in the seventies John Danielson and his wife spent their last days, honored and influential pioneers. John Danielson died on August 8, 1905, and Johannah Danielson died on December 23, 1907. They were the parents of five children, Annie, Amelia, Oscar, Gotfrey and Emma.

The two sons of the late John Danielson and wife, William Oscar and Henry Gotfrey Danielson, are twins and now own and operate the old home place, to which they have added until they are now owners of one thousand acres of excellent land, on which they have erected excellent buildings and made extensive improvements, carrying on their operations on a large scale and in accordance with the most up-to-date methods of scientific agriculture, going in chiefly for grain farming and potato raising. Their sister Anna is mistress of the household and they are very pleasantly and very comfortably situated.

OLE NYSTEVOLD.

Ole Nystevold, a well-known contractor and builder of Twin Valley, Norman county, was born on the old Nystevold homestead in Flom township, section 32, November 22, 1885, a son of John O. and Guri (Stuedahler) Nystevold, both of whom were natives of Norway.

John O. Nystevold, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born, April 15, 1850, and is now living an active life on the farm which he homesteaded many years ago in section 32, Flom township, a successful farmer and good citizen. He is a son of Ole S. and Carrie Nystevold, both of whom were born in Norway, but spent their whole lives in their native land, never coming to America. The father, who was a farmer and business man in the old country, died there in 1912 and the death of the mother occurred in 1907. They were the parents of five children, namely: John, the father of the subject of this review; Mary, who is married and now

residing in Canada; Rengnild, still living in Norway; Beret and Ingeborg, both still in their native land.

John O. Nystevold was reared on the home farm in Norway, and there he received an elementary education such as the time and place afforded. During the summer months, he helped his father to operate the farm and thus acquired a practical training that has been of great benefit to him since he came to this country and began a career on the soil; however, farming methods here in the Northwest are quite different from those practiced in Norway. Learning from many of his countrymen, who had come to America, that excellent opportunities for acquiring good land in large quantities for a small price were many in this country, he immigrated here in 1872 and came on out to Iowa, where he settled with two of his uncles in Allamakee county. Here he worked on his uncles' farm until the October of that year, when he removed to Wisconsin, where he worked for six years at lumbering. By this time he had acquired enough capital to set himself up in farming, and in 1878 he came over into Minnesota and on up into Norman county. Here he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in section 32, Flom township, where he has since continued to live, a pioneer in this part of the county. When he first came to his holding, he found it entirely new land, very raw but having a large, natural grove. He struck his plowshare into the soil in the year that he came, and for draught animals used oxen, which served his purpose for fourteen years. After he reaped and threshed his grain, he used the same animals to haul the treasure which he had wrested from the prairie thirty miles to the nearest market. Soon after he arrived upon his farm, he began building his house, which at first was a small frame structure, fourteen by sixteen feet, roofed with pieces of sod. His other farm buildings were logs, and, even though they were quite rough, they served his purpose until he could make the needed improvements. He has added to the farm home and barn, the former now consisting of eight rooms and a hall. All of his buildings are in an excellent state of repair, thus reflecting the industry and thrift of the owner. Mr. Nystevold is a grain farmer, raising wheat mostly, however, he has some graded stock.

In 1883, John Nystevold was united in marriage to Guri Stuedahl, who was born in Norway, in April, 1857, and she came to this country with her parents, both of whom are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Nystevold are the parents of four children, all of whom are living: Belle, at home; Ole, a contractor of Twin Valley, the subject of this review, and Henry and John, both at home working on their father's farm. The

father and mother are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Aspelund, and in the affairs of this church society they take a deep and active interest, the former being trustee of the congregation at this time. The father found time in the development of his farm to devote some of his efforts to the educational and civic interests of the community. For twenty-nine or thirty years he has been a clerk of the school district and for many years he was a member of the township board.

Ole Nystevold spent his boyhood on the old home place where he was born, and there in his youth and early manhood, contributed his industry to the development of his father's holding. He attended the local public schools, and there acquired his formal education. When he arrived at manhood, he decided to leave his father's roof and seek his place in the world of work in other places than on the soil. Accordingly he went to Twin Valley, where he learned the carpenter trade, and he prospered in his undertaking. He extended his operations until he took up contracting. He owns his comfortable home here in the village of Twin Valley, and on the same tract on which his home stands, he has his well-appointed workshop.

Mr. Nystevold married Mina Aasgaard, who was born in Minnesota, a daughter of Martinus and Maria Aasgaard. To this union have been born the following children: Gladys, Miles and Orwin. Mr. and Mrs. Nystevold are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Twin Valley, and they are very active in the church work of the local congregation and in all movements for the common welfare of the community in which they live.

HENRY BENSON.

Henry Benson, a retired farmer living in Twin Valley, who formerly owned one of the finest farms in Fossum township, this county, and one of the first settlers of the same township, was born at Christiania, Norway, on August 15, 1844, a son of Bernt and Martina Bjerke, both natives of the vicinity of Christiania, where they remained until their deaths, the father being a laborer. Bernt Bjerke was married twice; by his first wife, the mother of Henry Benson, he had six children, namely: Henry, Nils Christian, Mary, Stina Matilda, John Albert and Martine. He married Karen Stabek, and to the second union were born five children, as follow: Anna, Carl, Nettie, Hannah and Julia.

Henry Benson spent his early youth in his father's home in Christiania, where he received his early education in the common schools. After working for some time as a hostler for a baron, he decided when he was nineteen years of age to come to America; accordingly, in 1864 he came to the New World and went directly to Chatfield, Minnesota, where he remained one month. At this time he joined an uncle and went to Faribault, this state, and remained there about a year trying to learn to be a blacksmith, but since he did not like the trade he gave it up. Until 1871 he worked at rafting on the Mississippi in the summer time and in the pineries during the winter. At the beginning of the following year he returned to Faribault and was there married on February 15, 1872.

Feeling that he could achieve his aims in coming to America best in farming, Mr. Benson, in the year of his marriage yoked a team of oxen to a covered wagon into which he loaded his household goods, and with his bride went northward on May 22, 1872, to seek a home. Mr. and Mrs. Benson were accompanied by George Johnson, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume, and Mr. Johnson's two brothers, John Jensen and Jens Morland. After a journey of about three weeks the party reached what is now Fossum township, Norman county, arriving there on June 14. Mr. Benson immediately took as a homestead the northeast quarter of section 28, Fossum township, and his companions took either homesteads or pre-emptions. The land there at that time was wild, for this party were the first settlers in what is now Fossum township.

Immediately Mr. Benson began industriously to improve his holding until it was considered one of the finest places in the township when he sold it in 1913. He erected excellent buildings on the homestead and set out a grove of evergreen and box-elder trees. In addition to this he brought his farm by judicious agriculture up to a high state of cultivation, carrying on general farming. Later he made a most valuable acquisition to his holding when he bought a timbered tract of some forty acres. At this time Mr. Benson has retired, living in Twin Valley, Wild Rice township, where he is getting his long merited rest from his arduous labors on his farm.

On February 15, 1872, Mr. Benson was united in marriage to Oleana Sanders, born in Norway on May 10, 1846, the daughter of Ole and Martha (Sanders) Sanders and to this union the following children were born: Bernt Otto, born on December 20, 1872; Ida Marie, February 9, 1874; died September 4, 1887; Mina Gustava, May 30, 1875, died January 26, 1894; Carl Frederick, October 24, 1876; John Albert, March 23, 1878, died June 6, 1878; Ida Maria, May 11, 1879; Hannah, November 19, 1880; Stina

Mathilde and Alletta Josephine, twins, June 20, 1882; Tina Helena, March 15, 1884; John Alfred, June 24, 1886, and Ellen Naomie, February 15, 1888. The Benson family are consistent and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, in the affairs of which they have always taken a keen and active interest. Mr. Benson helping to organize the first church in Fossum township, the Wild Rice Lutheran church of which he was the first secretary.

Not only has Henry Benson been a **thrifty**, industrious and successful farmer, but he has been an invaluable agent in the organization and in the civil administration of the community in which he has lived. Fossum township, as it is today, is not the Fossum township of the early days, for it then included what are now the four townships in the southeast corner of Norman county. When the time came to organize the township with its present boundaries, Mr. Benson was one of the guiding spirits in the undertaking, and later his neighbors conferred upon him several local offices of trust, for he was made a member of the first township board as assessor, justice of the peace and township clerk, holding all three offices at once, and the last named office for thirty years. He was one of the organizers of Flom Fire Insurance Company and was treasurer of the same for twenty-two years. He has always held the educational progress of the community one of its precious assets, having helped to organize the eleventh school district of which he was made first school clerk, serving the community in that capacity for at least twenty years.

CLAUS ENGUM.

Claus Engum, proprietor of a fine farm of two hundred acres in Skree township, Clay county, and a well-known and substantial farmer of that neighborhood, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country and of Minnesota since 1891. He was born on October 27, 1867, son of Ole and Gori (Groneng) Engum, also natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land and who were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the seventh in order of birth, the others being as follow: Peter, who is still living in Norway; Guttofrm, a resident of Faribault county, this state; John, also of Fairbault county; Ole, deceased; and Andres, Carrie, Sinva and Gori, who are still residing in their native land.

Reared on the home farm in Norway, Claus Engum received his schooling there and remained at home until 1891, when he came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in Faribault county, where he became engaged at farm labor, working in town during the winters, and where he remained until 1898, in which year he came up into this part of the state and in that same year bought a quarter of a section of land in Skree township, Clay county, and proceeded to improve and develop the same. When Mr. Engum came here he was unmarried and for three years after taking his place he made his home with a family living just south of his farm. He then married and established his home on his farm and has there resided ever since, he and his family being very comfortably situated. Mr. Engum has a good set of buildings on his place and has a fine grove, an attractive feature of the landscape. Since taking his original quarter section he has bought a "forty" cornering the same and now has an excellent farm of two hundred acres, on which he is engaged in general farming, doing very well.

Mr. Engum's wife also was born in Norway, Gertrude Dybevik, daughter of Marcus Hoveland and wife, and she came to this country alone not long before her marriage to Mr. Engum. To that union one child has been born, a daughter, Julia. Mr. and Mrs. Engum are members of the church at Grant and take a proper interest in church work and in the other good works of the neighborhood in which they live.

NORMAN H. STADUM.

Norman H. Stadum, cashier of the First State Bank of Glyndon, secretary and treasurer of the Glyndon Grain and Elevator Company, treasurer of the Buffalo River Stock Farm, auditor of the Glyndon Light and Power Company, treasurer of the Glyndon Cooperative Creamery Association, treasurer of the Glyndon Telephone Company, justice of the peace in and for Glyndon township, former secretary of the Clay county Republican Central committee and in other ways actively identified with the civic and commercial interests of this section of the Red River valley, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life, a resident of Clay county since he was five years of age. He was born at Farmington, in Dakota county, not far south of St. Paul, February 22, 1878, son of Hans A. and Isabelle (Gjefsen) Stadum, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the

United States about 1866 or 1867 and located in Minnesota, where they are still living, for many years past residents of the city of Barnesville, where they have made their home since 1883.

Hans A. Stadum was trained to the trade of tailor in his native land and upon coming to Minnesota engaged in the tailoring business. After a some time residence in Filmore county he moved to Farmington and was there engaged in the tailoring business until 1883, when, attracted by the possibilities then opening for business in this part of the state, he came up here and located at Barnesville, where he became engaged in the tailoring business and where he ever since has made his home, one of the pioneers in the business life of that city, though now living retired from the active cares of business. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith. There were four of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Albert H. (deceased), Martin and Edith.

As noted above, Norman H. Stadum was but five years of age when his parents moved from Farmington to Barnesville and in the latter place he received his schooling and grew to manhood, from the days of his youth becoming familiar with business forms. In 1900 he became engaged as a bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Barnesville and in that institution became thoroughly familiar with the details of the banking business as relates to this section, remaining there for two years, at the end of which time, in 1902, he organized the First State Bank of Glyndon and has ever since been cashier of that institution, one of the best-known and most progressive bankers in Clay county. In addition to his extensive banking interests, Mr. Stadum has other interests in and about Glyndon and from the very beginning of his residence in that thriving village has given his earnest attention and active support to any movement promising a healthy extension of the general business interests of the place and of the community at large, having taken an influential part in the work of organizing various public and semi-public enterprises there; and is now serving as secretary and treasurer of the Glyndon Grain and Elevator Company, as treasurer of the Buffalo River Stock Farm, as auditor of the Glyndon Light and Power Company, as treasurer of the Glyndon Co-operative Creamery Association and as treasurer of the Glyndon Telephone Company, to the affairs of all of which concerns he gives his earnest and intelligent attention. Mr. Stadum is an ardent Republican and for years has been regarded as one of the leaders of that party in this part of the state. For some time he served as secretary of the Clay county Republican central committee and has held various

local offices, at present serving as justice of the peace in and for his home township. During the time of the establishment of the consolidated school in that township Mr. Stadum was a member of the school board and did much to promote that valuable movement looking to the advancement of educational standards in that part of the county.

In 1903, Norman H. Stadum was united in marriage to Edna Morris, of Minneapolis, and to this union two children have been born, sons both, Morris and Norman H., Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Stadum are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in other neighborhood good works, helpful in many ways in promoting causes having to do with the advancement of the common welfare. They have a very pleasant home at Glyndon and take an interested part in the general social activities of their home community. Mr. Stadum is a Scottish Rite Mason (thirty-second degree) and a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine and takes a warm interest in Masonic affairs. He also is a member of the local lodges of the Knights of Pythias, of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Royal Legion and in the affairs of these fraternal organizations likewise takes an active interest. For years he has been regarded as one of the "live wires" in the business community of Clay county and his influence for good in the extension of general commercial interests hereabout is felt in many directions.

WILLIAM J. TUCKER.

William J. Tucker, proprietor of a well-kept farm of two hundred and forty acres in Elkton township, Clay county, and former member of the board of supervisors of that township, is a native of Wisconsin, born on a farm in that state on August 7, 1857, son of W. T. J. and Claista (Cole) Tucker, the former a native of the state of Vermont and the latter of New York state, who became pioneers of Wisconsin, but whose last days were spent in Illinois. W. T. J. Tucker was a substantial farmer. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal church. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the third in order of birth, the others being Zachariah (deceased), Louisa, Mary, Susan, Ira, Carleta, Sarah (deceased) and John (deceased).

Reared on a farm in Wisconsin, William J. Tucker received his schooling in the schools of that state, and there remained until a year after his

marriage, when, in 1883, he established his home on a homestead tract in Brule county, South Dakota, where he remained for seven years, at the end of which time he moved to Spencer, Iowa. A year later he came to Minnesota and began farming in Martin county, where he remained until 1900, in which year he bought the farm on which he is now living in Elkton township, Clay county, and has there made his home ever since, developing a fine piece of farm property there. Mr. Tucker has two hundred and forty acres which he has improved in excellent shape, erecting substantial buildings, planting a grove and otherwise improving the place until he has one of the best farm plants in that neighborhood. Ever since taking up his residence in Clay county he has given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs, has served as a member of the board of township supervisors, and is now serving as clerk of his school district. He and his family are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community.

In 1882, while living in Wisconsin, William J. Tucker was united in marriage to Grace James, of that state, daughter of Thomas James and wife, and to this union were born ten children, Thomas William, Jane, Hattie, Anna, Albert, Effie, Jasper, Eugene, Phena and Earl, all of whom are living. The mother of these children died on June 25, 1911.

HENRY MARSTON.

The late Henry Marston, one of the pioneers of Clay county, who died at his home in Elkton township, and whose widow is still living there, was a native of England, but has been a resident of this country since he was eighteen years of age. He was born in 1847, son of George Marston and wife, also natives of England, who spent all their lives there, and there he received his schooling and spent his youth. When eighteen years of age he came to the United States and not long afterward located at Superior, Wisconsin, where he became engaged as a fireman on lake boats, and was thus engaged until he presently was appointed a grain inspector, with headquarters at Duluth, later entering railroad service, and about 1870 came over into this part of the state as a foreman of a construction crew during the time of the building of the Great Northern railroad. When the station at Barnesville was established Mr. Marston was put in charge of the water tank at that place and was presently appointed station agent, a position he occupied

for several years, or until 1879, when he married and homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Elkton township and there established his home, spending the rest of his life there and becoming one of the most substantial farmers in that section of the county. As he prospered in his farming operations Mr. Martson gradually added to his holdings until he became the owner of a fine farm of five hundred and sixty acres, which is still held in the family, his widow and several of the children still living there, very comfortably situated; the Marston farm being highly improved and profitably cultivated. Mr. Marston in addition to his farming interests took an active part in the general affairs of the community and was one of the organizers of the Farmers Elevator Company at Barnesville, in the affairs of which he took an active and influential interest.

In 1879 Henry Marston was united in marriage to Martha Milbeck, who was born in the kingdom of Norway and who had come to this part of Minnesota with her parents in pioneer days, and to that union were born eight children, all of whom are living, namely: George, now a resident of the village of Downer; William, who is on the home farm; Edward, who also is on the home farm, actively participating in the management of the well-ordered farm plant; Arthur, now a resident of Seattle, Washington; Charles, at home; Burdett, at home; Emma, also at home, and Martha, of Baker. The Marstons are members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community.

OLE N. STOEN.

Ole N. Stoen, a farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, was born in Norway, March 4, 1870. He is a son of Nels and Mary Stoen, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and made their home until 1874. In August of that year they immigrated to America, locating first in Jackson county, Wisconsin, where they spent six or seven years; then came to Clay county, and bought railroad land in Tansel township, which Mr. Stoen improved and put under cultivation, continuing farming there until 1912, when he moved to Canada, where he has since resided, having taken up a homestead in Saskatchewan. He has devoted his life to general farming. His family consisted of eight children, one of whom died young; the others were named as follow: Anna, Lars, Ole N., Carrie, Thorten, Tilda and Otto.

Ole N. Stoen was about four years old when his parents brought him to America. He received most of his education in the public schools of Tansem township, where he grew to manhood on the home farm. He lived in Tansem township until 1910 on rented land. Since then he has made his home on his fine farm of two hundred and forty acres near Barnesville, which land is well improved and under a high state of cultivation. He also owns some timber land besides his home place. He has set out a large grove on the place, and he has a comfortable home and numerous convenient outbuildings. He raises a large quantity of grain, much of which is fed to live stock. He makes a specialty of raising blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs and Shorthorn cattle. His fine stock brings fancy prices owing to its superior quality. He has done much to encourage the raising of better live stock in his community; he is an excellent judge of stock and is regarded as one of the best farmers in his township. He has been very successful financially, having managed well and persevered. He is one of the stockholders of the Farmers Elevator at Barnesville, which he helped organize. He is also a stockholder in the Barnesville Co-operative Creamery, and a member of the board of directors of the same.

Mr. Stoen was married in 1897 to Marie Hoveland, a daughter of Ole Hoveland, one of the pioneer settlers of Otter Tail county, Minnesota. Mrs. Stoen was first married to Andrew Stadum, and to their union two children were born; Matilda and Oscar. Her union with Mr. Stoen has also resulted in the birth of two children, Arthur and Oris. Mention is made of Ole Hoveland, father of Mrs. Stoen, on another page of this volume. Mr. Stoen is a member of the Lutheran church.

JOHN K. TATLEY.

John K. Tatley, one of Clay county's best-known landowners and a prosperous dealer in agricultural implements, with a well-equipped store at Olive, Montana, and land interests in that state as well as in Clay county and in the Dominion of Canada, is a native son of Clay county and most of his life has been spent here. Though his business interests are in Montana, he continues to regard Clay county as his home and his time is spent variously here and in Canada and Montana. He was born on a pioneer farm in Keene township, Clay county, February 18, 1878, a son of Knudt Nelson Rodahl and wife.

Knudt Nelson Rodahl became a pioneer farmer and settled on a homestead farm in the immediate vicinity of Hawley, where he met his death about three years later by being drawn into the lake by a double team of oxen which he was driving and which became stampeded and plunged into the lake. About 1885 his widow married Martin Lund, better known as Martin Tatley. She was a daughter of Johannes and Bertha Tatley, who were born in Norway and who came to Minnesota, making their home at Spring Grove, in Houston county, until about 1867, when they came up into this part of the state, driving through by ox-team, and settled in what afterward became known as the Hawley neighborhood. At that time there was no organized settlement here; Indians still were numerous hereabout and white settlers were few and far between. Though in the early days of the settlement of the Tatleys, grasshoppers were a great scourge, Indians were regarded as greater foes than the pestiferous insects and a constant guard was maintained against a possible outbreak of the redskins. Though occasionally reports would be heard of massacres in other settlements, the Tatleys never were attacked. Johannes Tatley bought a tract of school land in what later came to be organized as Keene township and there established his home, he and his wife spending the remainder of their lives there. When he settled there his nearest trading point was at Alexandria, where the land office was located, and it was a long and tedious trip to and from market.

Reared on the pioneer farm in Keene township, John K. Tatley grew toward manhood without any schooling save that received in his home, his mother teaching him with diligent care, and he never saw inside a school house until he was eighteen years of age, and the entire extent of his formal schooling covered but one hundred and twenty days of actual attendance in the school room, a part of this time being spent in the normal school at Moorhead. He was a close student, however, and a careful reader of the newspapers, for several of which he for some time acted as a correspondent during the days of his young manhood. Mr. Tatley made his home on the farm until his marriage in 1902 to Clara Winjum, daughter of Jens Winjum, of Lake Park, and in January, 1903, established his home on a homestead farm in Canada, his mother and his younger brother, Nicholas, accompanying him and his wife to their new home in the Dominion. Mr. Tatley homesteaded a quarter of a section of land there and later added to the same until he had four hundred acres of land, his brother Nicholas still living there. In July, 1906, Mr. Tatley returned with his wife to Minnesota. Mrs. Tatley was taken ill during the trip back and shortly afterward developed consumption, for a year thereafter being confined to the Luther Hospital.

Grasping at the last hope of saving his wife, Mr. Tatley, on the advice of physicians, went out to Montana, took a homestead at a point twenty-eight miles from a railroad, erected a house on the same and prepared a home for the reception of his wife, it having been believed that a change of climate and a higher altitude might prove beneficial to her, but she was unable to be moved and her death came not long afterward, her death occurring in the home of her father, her husband being thus left with two small sons, Earl and Melvin.

After the death of his wife Mr. Tatley remained on his Montana homestead until 1915, when the railroad was finished through from Beach to Olive, Montana. He built a store room at Olive and began the sale there of agricultural implements, which business he still continues, having been quite successful in the same. In addition to his business interests at Olive, Mr. Tatley is the owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres at Hawley, his father's old homestead, which he bought in 1908, and has other land in Canada and in Montana. Though his mercantile business requires that most of his time be spent at Olive, Montana, he manages to spend two or three months during the year looking after his farming interests at Hawley and in Canada. Mr. Tatley is a member of the Minnesota Implement Dealers Association. He is a member of the Norwegian Lutheran church, but in the absence of a church of that denomination at Olive, attends the United Brethren church there. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and with the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

SWENSON BROTHERS.

The Swenson brothers, Lenus and August, proprietors of "Spring Valley Stock Farm" in Spring Creek township, Norman county, have long been recognized as among the leading stockmen and public-spirited men of affairs of this section of the Red River valley. In addition to their fine farm of five hundred and eighty acres, on which they give much attention to the raising of registered Shorthorn cattle, they have other interests which place them well up in the list of the substantial citizens of that part of the country, August Swenson being president of the Fertile Co-operative Creamery Company of Fertile, one of the most prosperous concerns in northern Minnesota, and treasurer of his home township and a member of the school board

in district 29 of Norman county. They make a specialty of dual-purpose Shorthorns on their well-equipped stock farm and their sales of their registered stock attract wide attention throughout this part of the state and in the adjacent sections of the neighboring state of North Dakota. They have owned their farm since 1886 and have brought the same up to a high state of productivity, as well as having created there one of the best farm plants in this part of the country. "Spring Valley Stock Farm" having a wide reputation hereabout for the effective methods there adopted by Swenson Brothers, its proprietors.

Lenus and August Swenson are native sons of Minnesota and have lived in this state all their lives. They were born in Fillmore county, sons of Svante and Aaste (Halvorson Fergin) Swenson, the former a native of Sweden, born at Scharborlan, and the latter, of Norway, born in the country town of Posgrund. Upon coming to this country Svante Swenson and his wife for a time made their home in Wisconsin and then in Iowa, later coming up into Minnesota and settling in Fillmore county, where they established their home and where Mrs. Svante Swenson's last days were spent, her death occurring about fifteen years after the family settled there. In 1881 Svante Swenson and his four children, Lena Katrina, Jennie Marie, Lenus and August, left Fillmore county, disposing of their holdings there, and came up into the Red River country, driving through in a prairie schooner, and settled in Norman county, which in that year was established as a separate civic unit, splitting off from Becker county. Upon their arrival here they located on the Dave Bixle farm and there remained for five years, at the end of which time they took a homestead in Spring Creek township, Norman county, Minnesota, and there established their home, the place long known as "Spring Valley Stock Farm," where Swenson Brothers carry on their extensive farming and stock-raising operations. On that place Svante Swenson spent his last days, one of the most substantial pioneers in that neighborhood, his death occurring there in 1908. His sons, as just noted, still live there. His eldest daughter, Mrs. Lena Reiersen, lives at Fosston, in Polk county, and the younger daughter, Mrs. P. P. Haug, is living on a farm in Liberty township, Polk county, Minnesota.

On June 20, 1896, on the farm on which he now lives, Lenus Swenson was united in marriage to Ingebor Johnson, who was born at Spring Grove, Houston county, Minnesota, daughter of Ole and Ingre (Kaatrud) Johnson, and to this union five children have been born, namely: William, Milo, Alice, Eva and Clarence. August Swenson, who is unmarried, makes his home

with his brother and the latter's family. The Swensons have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live, helpful in many ways in promoting movements having to do with the advancement of the common welfare thereabout.

NILS O. DAHL.

Nils O. Dahl, a well-known retired farmer of Waukon township, Norman county, owning three hundred nine acres of farming and timber land, and who is prominently connected with the social, religious and co-operative business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, January 18, 1860, a son of Ole and Kari Grytdalen, both of whom were born in Norway, where they died, the father being a farmer and carpenter. The father and mother were the parents of the following twelve children: Carl, deceased; Ingeborg, Marie, deceased; Davet, Johanas, who is dead; Karena, Otto, Nils O., the subject of this review; Ole, Andreas, deceased; Taale and Augusta.

Reared on the old home farm back in Norway, where each member of the large family had to contribute his industry and thrift to the cultivation of the father's holding, Nils O. Dahl received a practical training in farming, which assured much of his success after his coming to this country to establish his home. During his early days in the land of his nativity, he received a limited formal education in the local public schools. The success of many of his countrymen and neighbors in their activities in the New World prompted him to leave his native land and in 1882, when he had reached the age of twenty-two years, he landed on American soil. Knowing that many of his friends were situated in Norman county, Minnesota, he came directly to Ada and immediately took a homestead of one hundred twenty acres in section 32, Bear Park township, which farm he traded a few years later for a part of his present farm. His farming operations have been so successful that he has been enabled to increase his holdings until he now is the owner of three hundred nine acres, two hundred ninety-nine of which comprise the home place in Waukon township and ten acres in Fossum township, which is timberland. His farm is one of the best improved ones in the vicinity, for he has erected excellent buildings, including a substantial, capacious barn and granary and has made an addition to the farm home. At present, in order to assure the adequacy of his farm plant, he is putting

up a second set of farm buildings. Mr. Dahl has worked hard to achieve the remarkable success which he now enjoys, and in the spring of 1917 he retired from active farming operations.

On December 8, 1891, Mr. Dahl was united in marriage to Gure Hermanson, who was born at Spring Grove, Houston county, Minnesota, March 6, 1858, a daughter of Ole and Bergit Hermanson, and to this union three children have been born, namely: Clara Belena, who died at the age of thirteen years, and Obert and Martinus. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are well-known and active members of the Norwegian Lutheran denomination, belonging to the Ness Lutheran church, which society the former helped to organize. He is interested in the local marketing and distributing agencies of the immediate vicinity, having helped to organize the Waukon Mercantile Company and being interested in the creamery at Waukon. Mr. Dahl has never sought after public office, he and his family take a deep interest in the social and civic betterment of the community in which they live.

ANDREW A. HOVLAND.

Andrew A. Hovland, well-known and substantial farmer, former township supervisor and for many years connected with business life of the part of the county where he now resides, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States since he was twenty-three years old and of Norman county since 1881. He was born in Norway on November 6, 1846, a son of Amund and Ingeborg (Arnold) Hovland.

Amund Hovland was born in Norway, as was also his wife, Ingeborg Arnold, and there he was educated in the schools of his day, later becoming an expert and thrifty farmer, always interested in the progress and welfare of his home neighborhood. He and his wife spent all their lives in their native land, dying there many years ago. They were the parents of seven children, five of whom are deceased, and whose names follow: Amund, deceased; Christina, deceased; Renald; Ella, deceased; Andrew, the subject of this sketch; John, deceased, and Johanas, deceased.

Andrew A. Hovland was educated in the schools of Norway and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped in the labors of improving and developing the tract. In 1869, at the age of twenty-three years, he decided to try his fortune in America and immigrated in that year, first

locating in Goodhue county, this state, and worked in that county on farms for twelve years. Then in the spring of 1881 he crossed over to Norman county by horse team, coming alone, being later followed by his family in the fall of the same year. On arriving in this county Mr. Hovland homesteaded a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land, the extreme northeast quarter section in Norman county, and on this place he has lived ever since engaged in general farming, being recognized as one of the skillful agriculturists in this part of the county. He has carried out a number of valuable improvements on the place and now has one of the best farm plants in or about the township.

In 1879 Andrew A. Hovland was united in marriage to Carrie Hoveland, a native of Norway and a daughter of Lars Hoveland. To this union the following children have been born: Alfred, deceased; Gilbert; Clara, deceased, and Carl, deceased. Mr. Hovland has ever given a good citizen's attention to local affairs and served the public as township supervisor for two years, bringing to the duties of that position a ripe intelligence and business-like qualities. He helped to promote the Rindahl Mercantile Company and the Rindahl Creamery, and in other ways he has given of his time and energy to the public advantage.

MELVIN O. BREDESON.

Melvin O. Bredeson, a well-known carpenter and contractor, of Barnesville, Clay county, was born in Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, on December 1, 1888. He is a son of Louis and Mary (Korsmo) Bredeson, both of whom were natives of Norway and who came to America.

On his arrival in this country Louis Bredeson proceeded on out to Minnesota and located west of Pelican Rapids, Otter Tail county. He immediately purchased a tract of land and commenced farming operations, his efforts being attended with considerable success. He continued to reside on his farm in the latter county for several years and came to Clay county in 1902, where he farmed for some time. He now lives in Clear Water county, this state, where he is the owner of a farm, which he is still actively engaged operating. Since he came to this country Louis Bredeson has been engaged in general farming in the different places in which he has resided and has had a fair measure of success. To Louis and Mary (Korsmo) Bredeson the following children have been born: Oscar (deceased), Emma, Melvin.

Hilda, Lottie, Ben, Ole, and Theodore. The family are earnest members of the Lutheran church and warmly interested in all its good works.

Melvin O. Bredeson, at the age of fourteen years, came with his parents from Otter Tail county to Clay county, in 1902. He received his education partly in each of these counties and was reared on his father's farm, where he helped with the farming work for some time. The family settled three and one-half miles south of Barnesville and there Louis Bredeson operated a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land until 1914, when he moved to Clear Water county, where he is still engaged in farming.

In 1908 Melvin O. Bredeson commenced to work as a carpenter in the town of Barnesville and has since followed that line of activity, his services being in much demand throughout a large part of the county. In 1916 he added to his carpentry work the broader branch of general contracting, and in the short period he has been thus engaged he has met with most encouraging success, with every prospect of his being recognized as an extensive contractor in the near future.

In May, 1914, Melvin O. Bredeson was united in marriage to May Griswold, of Barnesville, a daughter of Noyes Griswold and wife, well-known people of that district. Mr. and Mrs. Bredeson are the parents of one child, a daughter, Stella. The Bredesons are active members of the Lutheran church and are earnestly interested in all its good works and in all community movements having for their object the welfare of the public at large.

OLE NILSON.

Ole Nilson, a well-known and substantial farmer of Clay county, owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in sections 30, 31 and 32 of Holy Cross township, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country since the days of his young manhood, he having come to Minnesota in 1882, not long after attaining his majority. He was born on June 5, 1860, son of Nils and Eliza (Donaldson) Olson, also natives of Sweden, the latter of whom died in 1861, her son Ole then being about one year of age, and the former of whom survived her many years, his death occurring in May, 1917, he then being past eighty-four years of age. Nils Olson was a well-to-do farmer and a man of standing in his community. He and his wife were the parents of five children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Nels and Jens, who also came to this country and are

now living in Benson county, North Dakota; Gerta, a widow, now living in the state of Washington, and Lizzie, who is married and living in Canada.

Upon coming to this country in 1882 Ole Nilson located at Moorhead and two years later, in 1884, was married to Ingeborg Bernhardson, who also was born in Sweden, in 1865, and who was but four years of age when she came to this country with her parents in 1869. After his marriage Mr. Nilson established his home on his present farm in Holy Cross township and has ever since made that his place of residence, he and his family being very comfortably situated there. He has a fine place of two hundred and forty acres, which he has improved in admirable shape and has long been regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that neighborhood. He has made all the improvements on this place himself and has a very well-kept farm plant.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilson have eight children, namely: Lena, a widow; Freda, who is married; Andrew; Mila, who is married, and Lottie, Tilla and Ella, at home. The Nilsons have a very pleasant home and take an interested part in the community's general social activities. Mr. Nilson has given his earnest attention to local civic affairs and has served as a member of the town board and as a member of the school board in his local district. He is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and takes a warm interest in the affairs of that organization.

GUST EKLUND.

Gust Eklund, a well-known contracting painter and decorator at Moorhead, is a native of the kingdom of Sweden, but has been a resident of this country, living at Moorhead, since he was twenty-four years of age. He was born on December 9, 1860, son of A. G. and Anna (Bowman) Anderson, also natives of Sweden, the latter of whom died there and the former of whom is now living there, after a residence of fifteen years or more in this country.

On June 5, 1875, he then being but fourteen years of age, Gust Eklund was apprenticed to learn the trade of painting and paperhanging in his native land and after a four-years apprenticeship began working along that line on his own account, remaining in Sweden until 1884, when he came to Minnesota and located at Moorhead, where for five years he was employed at his trade, working for Fred Johnson. He then became a partner of Mr.

Johnson, a connection that continued for eight years, or until 1897, when he became an independent contractor in the painting and decorating line and has since been very successfully thus engaged. Mr. Eklund is a member of the Moorhead Commercial Club and takes an active interest in the general business affairs of his home town, for years having been one of the most earnest "boosters" of that city. He aided in the organization of the Moorhead Building Corporation and has been vice-president of the same since its organization.

In 1885, the year after his arrival in this country, Gust Eklund was united in marriage to Margaret Nordine, who also was born in Sweden and who was but a child when her parents, Jens Nordine and wife, came to Minnesota and settled in the neighboring county of Otter Tail. To that union eleven children have been born, two of whom died in infancy, the others being as follow: Edwin G., who is now engaged in educational work in Boston, Massachusetts; Rudolph, who is engaged in the jewelry business at Moorhead; Florence, who is a teacher in the public schools of Warren, this state; Anna K., who is now attending college at Cambridge, Massachusetts; Margaret V., who has just completed the course in the Moorhead high school, and Ila, Horace, Ruth and Iva, who are still in school. Mr. and Mrs. Eklund are members of the Congregational church and take a proper interest in church work and in the general good works of their home town. Mr. Eklund is a thirty-second degree Mason and a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. He also is affiliated with the local lodges of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of the Ancient Order of United Workmen and of the Order of Yeomen and takes a warm interest in the affairs of these several organizations.

ELISHA C. SPRAGUE.

There is no positive rule for achieving success, and yet in the life of the successful man there are always lessons which might well be followed. The man who gains prosperity in any vocation is he who can see and utilize the opportunity that comes in his path. Such a man is Elisha C. Sprague, a real-estate dealer and farmer, of Moorhead, Clay county.

Mr. Sprague was born on November 26, 1880, in Moorhead, a son of Elisha C. and Louise (Carlson) Sprague. The mother was born in Christiania, Norway. When about fifteen years of age she came with her uncle





and aunt to America, and they located in Aurora, Illinois. Her parents never came to this country, both dying in Norway. The death of the mother of the subject of this sketch occurred in 1893, she then being forty years of age. The senior Elisha C. Sprague was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, and came from Chicago to Clay county, Minnesota, about 1876, one of the pioneers of the Red River country, and did much to develop this section of the state. He devoted his active life to agricultural pursuits on a large scale, and to the real-estate business, and operated about ten thousand acres of land, raising immense quantities of grain and large herds of live stock. He owned about twenty-five thousand acres up and down the valley of the Red River of the North, his land extending many miles from Crookston down the river to Breckenridge and over to Fergus Falls. He was a man of much executive ability, sound judgment and business acumen and was rated as one of the big ranchmen of the state in the early days. He helped organize Clay county and helped organize a company to build the railroad from Moorhead to Breckenridge, which was later absorbed by the Great Northern system, of which James J. Hill was the promoter, and was also a heavy stockholder in many important enterprises throughout this section of the state. He made his home in Moorhead from 1878 until his death. He was one of the most influential and best-known men in the western part of the state, a man of progressive ideas, well informed on current topics of the day, public spirited, broad minded, and enjoyed the good will and respect of all classes. Although active in all movements having for their object the general upbuilding of Clay county, both in a material and civil way, he was never a seeker of public honors, never caring for political office, preferring to devote his attention to his vast business interests, striving only to be a good citizen in the best sense of the term. His death occurred in 1896, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

To Elisha C. and Louise Sprague the following children were born: Benjamin F., who was associated with his brother, Elisha C., Jr., in business from 1900 to 1906, who also owned farming lands and who made his home in Moorhead until his death on April 11, 1906; Elisha C., Jr., the subject of this sketch; Mrs. Emma Butts, who lives in Los Angeles, California, and Mrs. Bessie Machrise, who also lives in Los Angeles.

The junior Elisha C. Sprague grew to manhood in Moorhead and there attended the public schools, later studying one year in college at Worcester, Massachusetts. Upon returning home he took up the live-stock and real-estate business, together with farming, beginning his business career when

only sixteen years of age. In 1903 he dropped the live-stock business and since then has devoted his attention exclusively to the real-estate business and to farming, now the owner of two thousand acres of rich farm land, some of which lies near Hawley and some near Moorhead. He keeps several renters on his land. He farmed his land personally from 1901 to 1903, inclusive. His splendid modern home is located on part of the land formerly owned by his father, the latter of whom sold parts of his land from time to time. The estate is now valued at about three hundred thousand dollars and has been in court since 1904.

Elisha C. Sprague, Jr., was married in Oregon in 1911, to Grace Wise, who was born on August 27, 1884, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where her parents still reside, her father being engaged there in the furniture business. Politically, Mr. Sprague is a Republican, but he has never been an office seeker; however, he has always been a booster along all legitimate lines for Moorhead and Clay county, where he is well and favorably known, being regarded by all as a worthy son of a worthy sire and a man of many commendable personal attributes.

OLE J. BREKKE.

Ole J. Brekke, a retired farmer of Wild Rice township, where he owns a quarter section of well-improved land, was born in Tordenskjold township, Otter Tail county, Minnesota, September 3, 1868, being the first white child born in that township. He is the son of Sever O. and Anna (Rorgo) Brekke, both of whom were born and reared in Norway, where they married. Together they emigrated to America in 1866 and settled first in Dean county, Wisconsin, but after remaining there a short time they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, remaining there only a little while. Feeling that their opportunity to establish themselves permanently in a comfortable home lay farther north, they started out in the spring of 1868 in a wagon behind an ox-team to Otter Tail county, Minnesota. After a journey of three weeks duration, they arrived in that county and immediately pre-empted one hundred sixty acres of land and established their home where Ole J. Brekke was born in 1868. The Brekke family remained on their quarter section, which they improved until the spring of 1878, at which time they again followed their team of oxen farther northward to Norman county, the journey taking just seven days. There they located on disputed land, in what is now Wild Rice town-

ship, on a quarter section in section 19. On that place the family established their permanent home and the parents continued to reside on the land the rest of their lives, the father's death occurring in the winter of 1887 and that of the mother in the fall of 1900. They were the parents of seven children, namely: Ole J., the subject of this review; Rasmus, who died in infancy; Gertina, deceased; Bennie, who lives in Wild Rice township, this county; Anna, deceased; Ella, living in McHenry county, North Dakota, and Samuel, who is deceased. The Brekke family were consistent and conscientious members of the Lutheran church, the father having helped to organize the first church in the community, meetings being held in the Heiberg school house until a place of worship was erected in Twin Valley some years later. In those days Twin Valley was not yet established and Ada was the market.

Ole J. Brekke received his early education in the schools of Norman county, where he was reared on his father's farm. There he laid the foundation for his success in later years when he struck out for himself in agriculture. After he reached manhood, he decided that McKenzie county, North Dakota, proffered him the chance to become a landowner, and accordingly he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in that county and proved it up. In addition to his homestead in North Dakota, he owns a farm of one hundred sixty acres of improved land in Wild Rice township, this county. At present Mr. Brekke is a retired farmer, and being single, lives with his brother, Bennie, of Wild Rice township. In addition to his farming, Mr. Brekke has been interested in a business venture, having helped to organize the creamery at Twin Valley.

LARS H. ROSTVOLD.

Lars H. Rostvold, one of the substantial pioneer farmers of Lee township, Norman county, and the owner of one hundred and fifty acres in that township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was twenty-four years of age and of Norman county since the year 1883, and has consequently seen this region develop from the days of the pioneers. He was born in 1857, last of the ten children born to his parents, Halvor Anderson and wife, the latter of whom died when the subject of this sketch was but thirteen years of age. The other children

in this family are as follow: Andrew, who is still living in his native land; Arndt, who also continues to live in Norway; Nels, who came to this country years ago and is now a resident of Hendrum; Mrs. Ingeborg Skauge, also of Norman county; Ingebore, who is a resident of Polk county, this state; Anna, wife of A. A. Rostvold; Randa, wife of O. Johnson, of Hendrum; Cecelia, who continues to make her home in Norway, and Mary, who died in that country. Years ago, after his son Lars had secured a settlement on the land he now occupies, Halvor Anderson came to this country and his last days were spent here, his death occurring at the home of his son about twenty years ago.

Reared in his native land, where he acquired his education, Lars H. Rostvold remained there until he was twenty-four years of age and then, in 1881, came to the United States and two years later, in 1883, he came up here into the Red River country and settled in Norman county, where he ever since has made his home. For some time after coming here Mr. Rostvold worked on the farms of other settlers and then bought a piece of land of his own, owning then the land on which the village of Borup now stands. He later bought the place on which he is now living, a tract of eighty acres in section 4 of Lee township, and after his marriage in 1892 established his home there. When he bought that place it was wholly unimproved and all the substantial improvements that now adorn the place have been made by him. Mr. Rostvold also owns a tract of forty acres in section 3 of Lee township and another tract of thirty acres in section 8 and is accounted one of the substantial farmers of his neighborhood. He also owns stock in the elevators at Perley and Hendrum and in the canning plant at the former place and is a stockholder in the Farmers Bank of Hendrum. Mr. Rostvold has ever given a good citizen's attention to local political affairs and was for some time a member of the board of supervisors of his home township.

In 1892 Lars H. Rostvold was united in marriage to Ovedia Johnson, also a native of the kingdom of Norway, born in 1873, and who was seventeen years of age when she came to this country with her brother Bernard, now a resident of Norway. Mrs. Rostvold is the last-born of the five children born to her parents, the others being Bernard, of Hendrum; Peter, of Marshall county, this state; Martin, also of Marshall county, and Julia, wife of Paul Kragness. To Mr. and Mrs. Rostvold two children have been born, Halvor, deceased, and Halvor (second), who is living on the home farm, a valued assistant to his father in the labors of the same. The Rost-

volds are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in the affairs of the same, Mr. Rostvold having been for years one of the deacons of the local congregation. The family have a pleasant home and have ever taken a proper interest in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

EMIL AUGUST MENGE.

Norman county has many native sons who have won distinction in the various walks of life, and who with their families have had much to do with the general progress and development of the district, which today is one of the great farming and business centers of the United States. Not the least among these worthy people, who have had so much to do with the prosperity and growth of the county, is Emil August Menge, a successful farmer and stockman, living one-half mile west of the town of Lockhart, in Lockhart township, Norman county, who was born on November 8, 1882, and is a son of August and Fredericka (Malakowsky) Menge.

August and Fredericka (Malakowsky) Menge were born in Germany, and there they received their education, and there they were reared and in 1868 were united in marriage. August Menge was born in the year 1842 and is the son of Carl and Fredericka (Steinerans) Menge, both of whom were natives of the fatherland, where they died many years ago. After their marriage, August and Fredericka Menge continued to live in Germany for ten years, when they decided that they would seek a home in America. Here many of their neighbors and friends had located and were meeting with success. On their arrival in the United States in the year 1878, they at once proceeded to Minnesota, and located at Red Wing, where they remained for four years. In 1882 they came to Norman county, and here Mr. Menge took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres of land, in Lockhart township, and here he and his wife made their home until they retired from the more active duties of life in 1913, and moved to Ada, where they have a pleasant and substantial home, and are enjoying some of the comforts of life to which their many years of hard work entitle them.

At the time Mr. and Mrs. Menge located on their homestead, they were among the early pioneers of the section and their tract of land was an unbroken prairie. A small house was erected in which the family lived for a number of years. The farm was developed, and in time Mr. Menge

became a successful and prosperous farmer. His farm was under a high state of cultivation and splendid buildings had been erected. Where once was a wild waste of land, then blossomed fields of golden grain, and the pasture lands were dotted here and there with herds of the finest of cattle and horses and droves of hogs. Another quarter section of land had been added and the farm then consisted of three hundred and twenty acres, all of which was placed under cultivation and was well improved.

August and Fredericka Menge, in their struggle for a home, were ever mindful of their duty to their family and the community in which they were living. They were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the services of which they took great interest. Their efforts were ever exerted toward the extension and perfection of the schools of the district, and in the erection of churches in which to worship. They are the parents of the following children: Agnes, Christ, Paul, Emma, Richard, Emil August, Ernest, Merie, Benjamin and Lewis. Mr. Menge is a man of ability and force of character and has had an influential life in his adopted state. His worth as a man and his excellent judgment have been recognized by the people of his home township, who elected him to the important position of township supervisor, as well as to other of the offices of the district. He always gave the same care and attention to the affairs of the public that he gave to his own business, and at all times he has held the confidence and the respect of the people, and today he and his wife are held as among the most worthy people of their home community.

Emil August Menge received his education in the local schools of Lockhart township and was reared on the home farm, where he as a lad and young man learned the art of farming and the care of stock. On reaching his majority he engaged in general farming just across the road from the home place. There he remained for a year, since which time he has operated the father's farm of three hundred and twenty acres, and is today known as one of the progressive and successful farmers and stockmen of the county. He believes in modern methods of farming and the care and attention of stock, and has met with much success. He is systematic in his work, and thorough in all the duties on the farm.

In 1908, Emil August Menge was united in marriage to Dorathea Mayer, daughter of George and Louisa (Ungerer) Mayer. Her parents were natives of Germany and were married in Illinois, where they continued to reside until 1904, when they came to Norman county. They are a highly respected people and influential in the community in which they live, two miles west of Ada. There Mr. Mayer is successfully engaged in general

farming and stockraising, on his well-established farm. Mr. and Mrs. Menge are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and they are active in the social and religious life of the township. They are the parents of the following children: Elsie, Wilma, Roswald, Louise and Morris.

Mr. Menge has always taken a keen interest in all local affairs, and because of his progressive spirit and business qualities, he has been honored with many positions of trust and honor. For six years he has been a member of the township board, which position he still holds. His father assisted in the organization of the Lockhart Creamery Association, of which Emil A. Menge was for a number of years a director, and of which he is now the efficient president. He was always enthusiastic in the matter of good schools, and his constant endeavor has always been to place them on the highest plane possible. For four years he served as clerk of the school board, and is now a member of that board at Lockhart. He was a strong advocate of the consolidation plan of operating schools, feeling that by so doing, a better and more efficient system could be inaugurated. His influence had much to do with the present consolidated system now in vogue in the town, and to him is due much of the honor for the splendid modern school building.

ANTHONY G. SWANSON.

Anthony G. Swanson, one of the most progressive young farmers in Alliance township, Clay county, who is managing the two-hundred-acre farm left there by his late father and who is the owner of half a section of land in Barnesville township, is a native son of Clay county and has lived there all his life. He was born in the city of Moorhead in 1886, but has lived on the farm since he was about ten years of age, his father, the late John Swanson, having established his home on the Alliance township farm in 1896.

The late John Swanson was a native of the kingdom of Sweden, born there in May, 1840, and there became engaged in the railroad service, remaining there until 1871, when he came to the United States and for a time thereafter was engaged in railroad service here. In 1873 he came out here into the Red River country and located at Moorhead, where in 1882 he married Mary Erickson, also a native of Sweden, born in March, 1852, and who had come to this country in 1886. In 1896 John Swanson bought a farm of two hundred acres in section 13 of Alliance township and there established his home, remaining there the rest of his life, his death occur-

ring on April 3, 1914. John Swanson was a good farmer and developed a fine piece of farm property, now owned by his widow and operated by his son, Anthony. John Swanson took an active part in the general affairs of the community in which he settled in pioneer days and for some time during his residence in Moorhead served as overseer of roads in that district.

To John and Mary (Erickson) Swanson were born six children, namely: Martina, who is married and is living in North Dakota; Gus Edward, who is farming east of Barnesville; Anthony G., the subject of this biographical sketch; Arthur, deceased; Selma, at home, and Lillie, deceased.

As noted above, Anthony G. Swanson was about ten years of age when his parents settled on the Alliance township farm and he ever since has resided there, since his father's death managing the farm for his mother. Besides attending to the extensive interests there he also is the owner of a half section of land in section 18 of Barnesville township, a quarter section of which he bought in February, 1909, and the adjoining quarter in the summer of 1913, and which he is improving and developing in excellent shape. In addition to his general farming Mr. Swanson gives considerable attention to the raising of Shorthorn cattle and is doing very well. During the summer of 1917 he had out about eighty acres of potatoes. A year ago he thoroughly remodeled the home farm house, modernized it and installed a hot-water heating plant, running water, baths and the like and the family are now very comfortably situated there. Mr. Swanson is a member of the local lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Royal Neighbors and takes a warm interest in the affairs of both of these orders.

ALBERT C. ALLEN.

Albert C. Allen, an energetic and substantial farmer, owner of a quarter section of choice land in Glyndon township, Clay county, former chairman of the board of township supervisors, was born on June 3, 1868, in Sauk Center, Minnesota. He is a son of Adam and Mary (Barker) Allen, the former of whom died in 1873, when the subject of this sketch was a child of five years old, and the latter died in 1908, having survived her husband about thirty-five years.

Adam Allen was born in the state of Michigan, where he followed the occupation of a farmer. He served throughout the Civil War on the side of the Union and saw considerable service during that period of strife

between the states. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge and returned to his family who continued to live in Michigan during his absence on military service. Adam Allen was married to Mary Parker, who was born near the university city of Oxford, England, and some years later came to this country. They became the parents of three children, namely: Bessie, deceased; Ada, who is married, and Albert C., the subject of this sketch.

Albert C. Allen was educated in the schools of Sauk Center and of Clay county, to which he came with his mother in 1878. He followed the life of a farmer and about seven years ago made his first purchase of land. He is now the owner of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land in Glynndon township, Clay county, and is successfully carrying on his farming operations according to modern methods of agriculture. He has set out about forty-five acres of his holding to the cultivation of potatoes and in all his farm labors is doing very well, being recognized as a progressive and up-to-date farmer. He carried out several improvements on the place.

Albert C. Allen was united in marriage to Agnes Friday, who was born in the state of Wisconsin in 1873. To this union two children have been born, Merle and Myrtle, both living at home with their parents. Mr. Allen served as chairman of the board of township supervisors for three years, giving considerable satisfaction in that office, and in other ways he has given evidence of his interest in public affairs. The Allen family are earnestly interested in all the good works of the neighborhood in which they reside.

PETER H. HANSON.

Peter H. Hanson, one of the best-known pioneers of Norman county, now living retired at Gary, where he has just completed a handsome, modern home, is a native son of Minnesota, and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a pioneer farm in the near vicinity of Albert Lea, in Freeborn county, August 21, 1858, son of Hans and Carrie Olson (Kernvald) Hanson, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who came to the United States in 1853 and after a short stay at Round Prairie, Wisconsin, moved to Kamrar, Iowa, where they lived until 1858, in which year they moved up into Minnesota, settling in Freeborn county, in the immediate vicinity of Albert Lea. Hans Hanson was a tailor by trade, but upon coming to Minnesota homesteaded a quarter of a section of land near Albert Lea and proceeded to develop the same, at the same time establishing a tailor shop

the first in that part of the state, and worked both at farming and at tailoring. He and his wife spent the remainder of their days on that homestead farm and both lived to be past eighty years of age. Hans Hanson, who was born on June 10, 1827, died on February 25, 1911, he then being in his eighty-fourth year, and his widow, who was born on December 24, 1829, survived him until July 27, 1916, she being in her eighty-seventh year at the time of her death. They were the parents of fifteen children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being Anna, Helen and Marie (twins), Ole, Charles, Bertha Louise (who died in her third year), Adolph Wilhelm, Bertha Louise, Hans Thomas, Caroline Marie, Emma, Sophia Randine, Albert and Martin E. Hans Hanson and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Peter H. Hanson was reared on the home farm near Albert Lea and received his elementary schooling in the schools of that place, supplementing the same by a course in Luther College at Decorah, Iowa, which he attended from 1872 to 1876. He then started teaching school in his home county and was thus engaged there, during the winters, until the spring of 1881, when he came up into this part of the state and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 24 of Sundal township, Norman county, and proceeded to develop the same. It was on April 10, 1881, that Mr. Hanson located in Norman county and he ever since has resided there, being thus properly regarded as one of the pioneers of the county, which was created as a separate civic unit in that year. The next year he married and he then established his home on his homestead tract, his first house being a one-story log house, thirteen by fourteen feet in dimension, with a sod roof, and in that house he and his wife made their home for five years, or until he could "prove up" on his claim, after which he made permanent improvements of a substantial character. All of that quarter section was broken and grubbed by Mr. Hanson himself, with the exception of a patch of fifteen acres which he hired grubbed. For six years after locating there he continued to teach school during the winters, spending his summers in developing his farm, and he thus left a lasting impression upon the minds and hearts of the youth of that community, as one of the pioneer teachers of Sundal township. Among the improvements Mr. Hanson made on his place was the planting of a grove of about one thousand evergreen trees, which, now grown to admirable size, form a most attractive feature of the landscape thereabout.

In 1887, not long after he had "proved up" his homestead, Mr. Hanson left the farm to accept the position of manager of the Thorpe elevator and lumber yard at Gary and moved to the new town on the railroad. In 1889 he built a store building and started a general store at Gary, employing clerks to conduct the same for him, while he gave his attention principally to buying cattle and grain. At the same time he was running the local hotel and was serving as postmaster at Gary. From 1890 to 1895 he was engaged in buying grain for the P. V. Elevator Company at Gary and was thus engaged there until the latter year, when he sold his interests in the village and returned to his farm in Sundal township, where he remained until the fall of 1916, when he retired from the farm and returned to Gary, where he and his family are now very comfortably situated, their house, just recently completed, being provided with every convenience of a city home and regarded as one of the best houses in the county. During his long residence on the farm Mr. Hanson took an active part in public affairs, served for some time as assessor of Sundal township and also as justice of the peace in and for that township and was chairman of the board of township supervisors for three years, during which time he started the movement for the construction of bridges and sewers with concrete. In the general business affairs of his community he also continued to take an active interest and was one of the organizers of the Sundal Creamery Company and of the Sundal Mercantile Company.

It was in 1882, the year after he located in Norman county, that Peter H. Hanson was united in marriage to Mary Fossum, also of Freeborn county, and to this union three children have been born, Clara A., Henry P. and Maud P. The Hansons are members of the United Lutheran church and take a proper interest in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community, helpful in promoting all agencies designed to advance the common welfare.

FRANK MUELLER.

Frank Mueller, one of Norman county's most substantial farmers, the owner of a fine farm of six hundred acres in Green Meadow township, former justice of the peace in and for that township, a former member of the board of township supervisors, president of the Green Meadow Creamery Company and in other ways actively identified with the general civic and business interests of his home community, is a native son of Minnesota

and has lived in this state all his life, with the exception of twelve years spent in the neighboring state of South Dakota. He was born in Nicollet county, on March 14, 1863, son of Henry and Frederica Mueller, natives of Germany, who came to Minnesota in 1858 and settled in Nicollet, where both spent the remainder of their lives, influential early residents of that place. Henry Mueller and wife were the parents of eight children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fifth in order of birth, the others being as follow: Martin, who is engaged in business at New Ulm; Mary, who is married and lives at St. Peter; Henry and Herman, twins, who live in Nicollet; Louis, deceased; William, who is engaged in business at St. Peter, and Emil, who is living at New Ulm, this state.

Reared at Nicollet, Frank Mueller received his schooling there and early took to farming as a vocation. He married in 1884 and some time later moved to South Dakota, where he was engaged in a shoe store for twelve years, at the end of which time he came over into this part of the Red River country and settled in Norman county, buying then the farm on which he has ever since made his home, in Green Meadow township. Upon taking possession of that place Mr. Mueller proceeded to improve the same, planted a grove, erected a substantial set of buildings and otherwise began to make of it one of the best farms in that part of the county. He now owns six hundred acres of excellent land, which is being farmed by his sons, who have been in general charge of the place ever since their father was incapacitated for further active service by reason of a stroke of paralysis, from the effects of which he is kept to the house, though his mind is still as alert and active as ever. Mr. Mueller, ever since settling in Norman county, has taken an interested part in local public affairs and has served his township as justice of the peace and as a member of the township board and for years has been a member of the school board in district No. 20. He also has given his active attention to movements designed to increase the effective organization of rural conditions and is president of the Green Meadow Creamery Company.

On January 6, 1884, Frank Mueller was united in marriage to Theresa Shelhorn, who was born in Germany, daughter of Charles and Eliza Shelhorn, and to this union have been born six children, John, Elizabeth, Frank, Angeline, Henry and Lillian. Of these children, Angeline and Elizabeth are married and live in this state. Frank is married and lives at Cedar Rapids; Henry also is married, continuing to make his home on the home place with John, which he and his brother are farming with much success.

The Muellers are members of the German Lutheran church and the family takes a proper interest in church work and in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

REV. HALVOR O. NORDBY.

Rev. Halvor O. Nordby, who has ministered to the spiritual needs of Lutheran congregations in this and other parts of Minnesota for many years and now has charge of the St. Peter Lutheran congregation in Strand township, Norman county, where he has, since his residence here, been prominently connected with all the good works of the community, was born in Norway, May 13, 1860, a son of Ole and Gunhild Maria Nordby, both of whom were native Norwegians, the former being a farmer in the old home across the Atlantic where he lived and died.

Halvor O. Nordby spent his early boyhood on the old home farm in Norway, but when he reached sufficient age, he entered the Aars & Far's Latin and Real gymnasium at Christiania, where he received his elementary education. Later, however, he attended the Sabici gymnasium in the same city and graduated therefrom in 1884. For five years he remained on his father's farm but in 1889, feeling that he could find a fruitful field for his endeavor in the New World among his countrymen who had immigrated to this country, he, too, joined a party of immigrants whose destination was America and landed here when he was twenty-nine years of age. From the early years of his manhood, Mr. Nordby had burned with the desire to serve his fellow-men in the capacity of a minister of the gospel, and after he had arrived on American soil, he entered Robinsdale Theological Seminary at Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he acquired the American attitude and thus prepared himself the more fully for his service among the Lutheran people of the great Northwest. He graduated from this institution in 1892, at which time he was ordained a Lutheran minister. For two years after his ordination, he had charge of the congregation at Audubon, Minnesota, after which time his work brought him to near Valley City, North Dakota, where he had charge of several congregations, doing missionary work. Reverend Nordby undoubtedly built nobly and well in that vicinity, for in that community the work which he did by himself now necessitates four ministers to take care of it. It was in 1912 that he came to his present charge, the St. Peter Lutheran church, in Strand township, Norman county, and

here he has ministered to the needs of the congregation in the unselfish and unstinted manner characteristic of the man that he is and of his high calling, thus holding a large place in the hearts of his flock.

On February 11, 1895, Reverend Nordby married Maria Hanson, who was born in Houston county, Minnesota, a daughter of Hans and Sigrid Hanson, the former of whom was for twenty-five consecutive years the register of deeds of Becker county, Minnesota. Reverend and Mrs. Nordby are the parents of four children, all of whom are living. Sunneva, the wife of Rev. N. W. Ylvisaker; Oscar, Lorrentz and Norman. Reverend Nordby is a valuable citizen of the community in which he lives, for here he takes a prominent part in all the good works which have for their purpose the social and moral betterment.

HENRY E. GUNDERSON.

Henry E. Gunderson, one of Norman county's most substantial and progressive farmers and the owner of a fine place in Flom township, where he and his family are very comfortably situated, was born on a pioneer farm in Clayton county, Iowa, September 14, 1850, and there grew to manhood, but has been a resident of the Red River country since 1882. He is a son of Embrets and Isabel (Bjerno) Lair, natives of the kingdom of Norway, who became pioneers in Clayton county, Iowa, and there spent their last days, the former dying at the age of sixty eight when the subject of this sketch was but five years of age. Embrets Lair was a landowner in Iowa and left a good piece of property to his family when he died. His widow survived him about thirteen years, she being sixty-six years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of five children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, the others being Ole and Jergen, who are married and still living on the old home place in Iowa; Gunhild, deceased, and Embret, who is married and is still living in Iowa.

Reared on the home farm in Clayton county, Iowa, Henry E. Gunderson received his schooling in the local school of that neighborhood and remained at home until after his marriage at the age of twenty-three, when he and his bride, in 1882, came up into the valley of the Red River of the North and two years later bought a tract of three hundred and twenty acres, a half section, in section 35 of Flom township, Norman county, where they established their home and where they ever since have resided, useful and

influential pioneers of that part of the county. As he prospered in his farming operations Mr. Gunderson bought an additional quarter section in section 35 of Flom township and forty in section 15 of Fossum township, being now the owner of five hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, two hundred and forty acres is under cultivation. There are natural groves of poplar on his place and his buildings are substantial and up-to-date. In addition to the central farm house there is a well-built bungalow on the place and the general farm plant is looked upon as one of the best equipped in that part of the county. All of the buildings are lighted by electric light and the appointments of the place are in other respects equally up-to-date. Mr. Gunderson gives considerable attention to the raising of live stock and at the time of this writing in 1917 had on his place sixty-five head of cattle, eight head of horses and fifteen hogs. For four or five years after beginning his farming operations here Mr. Gunderson farmed with oxen and he has witnessed a remarkable revolution in farming methods since those days.

On August 17, 1882, in Clayton county, Iowa, Henry E. Gunderson was united in marriage to Bertha Embretson, who was born in Iowa on July 9, 1865, and to this union eleven children have been born, namely: Jesse, who is married and is living at Faith, Norman county; Burton, who is married and who lives at Waubun, Mahnomen county, Minnesota; Edwin, also married, who is living at Waubun; Perry and Herbert, twins, the former of whom is living in North Dakota and the latter on the home place; Bernard, who is married and living at Flom, and Adelia, Mabel, Clarence, Geneva and Floyd, at home. Mr. Gunderson served for about eighteen years as treasurer of the local school board. He is a stockholder in the Co-operative Creamery Company and in the Farmers State Bank of Flom and was one of the organizers of the first-named concern.

LAMBERT ROESCH.

Lambert Roesch, a well-known real-estate dealer and banker, of Ada, formerly and for years engaged in the clothing business in that city and who also is a substantial landowner in Norman county, is a native of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Norman county since the days of his boyhood. He was born on a farm in Dunn county, Wisconsin, May 19, 1871, son of John and Sophia (Schill) Roesch, natives of Germany, who became pioneers

of Norman county and spent their last days there, John Roesch becoming one of the most extensive landowners in that county.

John Roesch was born in 1824 and grew to manhood in his native Germany. When twenty-one years of age, in 1845, he came to the United States and for the first two years after his arrival in this country worked in New York. He then, in 1847, came up into the Northwest and was located at St. Paul for two years, at the end of which time he entered a homestead claim to a quarter of a section of land in Carver county, this state, five years later selling that homestead to advantage and moving to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where for about ten years he worked in the lumber woods. He then moved onto a farm near Eau Claire and there made his home until 1879, when he returned to Minnesota and came on up to this part of the state and homesteaded a tract in what later came to be organized as Winchester township, Norman county, where he established his home and where he spent the rest of his life. From the very beginning of his residence in Norman county John Roesch's affairs prospered and he gradually added to his holdings until he became the owner of one thousand two hundred and eighty acres of land. He died in 1904 and his widow survived him for about five years, her death occurred in 1909. They were the parents of twelve children, all of whom are still living and of whom the subject of this sketch was the eighth in order of birth, the others being Mary, Theresa, Carrie, John, Joseph, George, Frank, Fannie, Christine, Michael and Isabel.

Lambert Roesch was eight years of age when his parents moved from Wisconsin to Minnesota and he grew to manhood on the home farm in Norman county, completing his schooling in the village schools at Winchester, his first schooling in that neighborhood having been received in a room set apart for that purpose in a farm house. When twenty years of age Mr. Roesch began working for Andrews & Hampson, in the machine line at Ada, and remained with that firm for nine years. In the meantime, in 1898, he engaged in the clothing business at Ada, in partnership with Sam Olson, but continued his connection with Andrews & Hampson for two years thereafter, Mr. Olson looking after the affairs of the clothing store. In 1900 Mr. Roesch entered the clothing store and was thus engaged in business with Mr. Olson until 1911, when he engaged in the real-estate business in partnership with Edward Helland and was thus engaged for a year, at the end of which time he formed a partnership with D. C. Jones in the real-estate line, and has ever since been thus engaged, he and Mr. Jones operating extensively in realty throughout this section of Minnesota. In 1916 Mr.

Roesch closed out his interest in the clothing store to Mr. Olson. In 1915 he and Mr. Jones organized the First State Bank of Gary and Mr. Roesch is one of the directors of the same. In that same year he and Mr. Jones organized the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Ada and Mr. Roesch is credit man for that institution. In addition to his banking and other interests in and about Ada, Mr. Roesch is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Anthony township and has long been regarded as one of the substantial citizens of Norman county.

On July 1, 1901, Lambert Roesch was united in marriage to Harriet Lebrun, daughter of Florentine Lebrun and wife, and to this union four children have been born, Grace, Alice, Cleora and Lambert, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Roesch are members of the Catholic church and give their earnest attention to parish affairs. Mr. Roesch is a Democrat and gives a good citizen's attention to local political matters, but has not been a seeker after office. Fraternally, he is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus and with the local lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks and in the affairs of these organizations takes a warm interest.

WALTER G. HADLER.

Walter G. Hadler, a well-known merchant and store-keeper, of Pleasant View township, Norman county, former township assessor and in other ways was identified with the progressive spirit of his neighborhood, is a native son of Norman county, born on his father's old homestead on August 15, 1884, a son of Jacob and Wilhelmina H. (Bauer) Hadler, the former a native of Germany and the latter, of the state of Indiana.

Jacob Hadler, who was deprived of his parents at the age of seven years, was reared by a maternal aunt and continued to live in his native Germany until he was fifteen years old, when, in 1869, he immigrated to America and on arrival went on to Minnesota and settled in Red Wing, near which place he remained for ten years, working on farms. In 1879 he moved to Norman county and entered a homestead claim to one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 14 of what later became Pleasant View township. He operated this land and set it out to general farming and met with success from the very beginning. Later, he engaged in the sale of binder twine and agricultural implements in Ada. A further and more extended account

of Mr. Hadler's life appears on another page of this work and to that the reader is referred for complete particulars. Jacob Hadler and wife were the parents of the following children: Benjamin H., Ida C., Walter G., the subject of this sketch; Jacob J., Wilhelmina M. and Albert E. Mr. Hadler and his wife affiliated with the Lutheran church and their children were reared in that faith.

Walter G. Hadler was educated in the public schools of Norman county and later at a commercial college in Texas. He assisted his father in the labors of the farm and after the lapse of some years thus engaged he started business on his own account as a grain buyer, also being the owner of a store in Hadler, which he purchased, and also acquired a lot, in the spring of 1914. He has been very successful as a grain buyer and in that connection is well known outside the limits of Norman county. In addition to his commercial undertakings he acts as agent for the Thorpe Elevator Company. Mr. Hadler is regarded as an expert judge of grain and enjoys the confidence of a wide circle of those engaged in handling that commodity, whether as buyer or sellers.

On February 5, 1911, Walter G. Hadler was united in marriage to Margaret Letness, born on November 6, 1889, in Norway and at the age of three years accompanied her parents to America, the father and mother still living near Hendrum, this state. Mr. Hadler gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and served for one year as township assessor, giving general satisfaction while engaged in the duties of that important office, and in other ways he has interested himself in matters appertaining to the community welfare, ever supporting all projects tending toward that end. Mr. Hadler is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church, in the good works of which he is warmly interested.

OLE HOVDEN.

The late Ole Hovden, one of Norman county's pioneer farmers and for years one of the most substantial residents of Lee township, who died at his home in that township in the summer of 1901 and whose widow is still living there, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of this state since 1878, in which year he came up here into the Red River valley and located at Moorhead. He was engaged in farming in that vicinity until the fall of 1880, when he bought a tract of eighty acres in section

26 of Lee township and there established his home. He later bought one hundred and sixty acres in sections 26 and 27 of the same township and at the time of his death had developed a fine farm, well improved and profitably cultivated.

Ole Hovden was born on December 17, 1845, last born of the four children born to his parents, Ole and Anna Olson, the others being Ranghild, Martin and Bolette, who remained in their native land. In 1873 he married Oleanna Kristopherson, who was born on January 28, 1846, daughter of Christopher and Dorothy Marie Olson, and who was the last-born of the four children born to her parents, the others being Elias, who is now living retired at Moorhead; John, who is living in the state of Michigan, and Petrina, now deceased, who was the wife of Jens Anderson. About five years after his marriage, or in 1878, Mr. Hovden came to this country with his family and, as noted above, for a few years made his home at Moorhead, farming with Jens Anderson, later buying the farm in Lee township referred to above and proceeded to improve and develop the same. He planted a grove that is now an admirable feature of the landscape in that section, made substantial improvements on the place and in due time had a very comfortable home and a well-developed farm. As he prospered he bought an additional tract of one hundred and sixty acres in sections 26 and 27 of that same township, thus giving him two hundred and forty acres of fine land, and he became regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that part of the county. Mr. Hovden took an active interest in the general business affairs of the county and was one of the promoters of the Farmers Elevator Company, in which he was a stockholder. Other enterprises of a local nature also received his earnest support. Mr. Hovden died on July 8, 1901, and there was sincere regret throughout the community of which he had been so long a resident, for he had done well his part in that community.

To Ole and Oleanna (Kristopherson) Hovden were born four children, namely: John, who is married and who is engaged in the mercantile business at the village of Twin Valley; Christian, who is taking care of the home farm for his mother; Conrad, who is married and who is now living at St. Paul, where he is connected with the firm of Swift & Company, and Anna, who is married and is living at Minneapolis. Christian Hovden, who is looking after the home farm, was born in Norway in 1877 and was a babe when his parents came to this country, consequently all his active life has been spent in Norman county. He grew up on the home farm, receiving his schooling in the local schools and early became a practical

farmer. After the death of his father he assumed the active management of the farm, in his mother's behalf and has done well in his farming operations, which are carried on strictly in accordance with modern methods. On November 20, 1915, Christian Hovden was united in marriage to Minnie Baker, who was born in this state in 1895, and to this union one child has been born, a daughter, Elaine. The Hovdens have a very pleasant home in Lee township and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities and good works of the community in which they live.

WILLIAM VIDEEN.

William Videen, an energetic and substantial young farmer of Moorhead township, Clay county, proprietor of a fine farm in the township and engaged in general farming and stock raising, was born in Moorhead on May 24, 1881. He is the son of William and Ellen (Nelson) Videen, both of whom were natives of the kingdom of Sweden.

The elder William Videen immigrated to the United States from his native Sweden when he was quite young. On arriving in this country he came on out to Minnesota and settled at Moorhead, in Moorhead township, Clay county. In this place he engaged in mercantile business and also handled lumber, these two branches of work keeping him occupied for the remainder of his active life. He was united in marriage to Ellen Nelson in this country, she having also come from Sweden in her young days. They both died in Moorhead, this county. They were the parents of the following children: William, the subject of this sketch; and Ida, who married Doctor Keenyon, of Cheyenne, Wyoming. William Videen and his wife were members of the Swedish Lutheran church and earnestly interested in all its good works. They were ever regarded as excellent citizens and their deaths were widely mourned throughout the community in which they had been living for many years.

William Videen was educated in the common schools of Moorhead and on the completion of his school course he took up farming for some time. He later went across the border to Canada and worked on a railroad in that country for one year. At the end of that period he returned to Moorhead and commenced farming on his own account, also engaging in the raising of cattle. Mr. Videen owns one hundred and sixty acres of prime land and rents another one hundred and sixty acres, and is actively engaged in general

mixed farming and the raising of a good grade of Shorthorn cattle, headed by a registered Shorthorn bull. He is an enterprising young farmer, carrying on his farming operations according to modern methods of agriculture, and is doing very well. His place is well improved and he is accounted one of the substantial farmers of his section of the county.

On June 14, 1906, William Videen was united in marriage to Hilda Sunquist. To Mr. and Mrs. Videen three children have been born, namely, Eunice, Margarette and an infant that died. The Videen family are members of the Swedish Lutheran church and warmly interested in all church work, and are prominent members of the community. Mr. Videen gives his ardent support to the Republican party and is serving as clerk of Moorhead township; he is also clerk of school board district No. 79. He is president of the South Side Farmers Club and takes a good citizen's interest in all local civic matters and in the general affairs of the community in which he lives.

K. KITTELSON.

K. Kittelson, a well-known and energetic farmer of Goose Prairie township, Clay county, owner of a compact and well-kept farm of two hundred and forty acres, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since he was five years old and of Clay county since 1878. He was born in 1856 and is a son of Kittel and Gunild Kittelson, both natives of Norway, who came to America in 1861.

Kittel Kittelson was a farmer in his native Norway and on coming to the United States proceeded to the state of Wisconsin, working out for a time. His health was not the best and at the end of two years following his arrival here his death occurred. His wife, Gunild Kittelson, lived with her son, the subject of this sketch, and at the time of her death in 1894 was seventy-six years old. Kittel Kittelson and wife were the parents of the following children: Ingeborg, deceased; Mrs. Anna Ostinson, who lives in North Dakota; Agnes, living in Iowa; Nellie, deceased; Tohore, deceased; Guleck, deceased; Ole, deceased; Nils, deceased, and K. Kittelson, the subject of this sketch.

K. Kittelson was a child of five years old when his parents immigrated to the United States and he went with them to Wisconsin, where his father died some two years after arriving in that state. His mother then moved to Iowa, and he attended school and worked out to help the family deprived

of its head while he was still a child. At the age of twenty-one years Mr. Kittelson moved to Clay county and took a homestead near Hawley, in Highland Grove township. This was in 1878. He lived at that place for seven or eight years and sold out and came to Goose Prairie township and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 36, that township, later adding another eighty, and now has a compact and well-kept farm of two hundred and forty acres of choice land and is engaged in general farming, his efforts from the beginning of his agricultural operations in this township meeting with success. Mr. Kittelson carried out all the improvements at present on his holding and he is now regarded as one of the substantial and energetic farmers of this part of the township.

In 1905, at Moorhead, K. Kittelson was united in marriage to Mathilda Holum, who was born in Norway in 1875 and came with her mother to America in 1892, the father having died some time previously in Norway. A brother also accompanied her to this country. Mr. and Mrs. Kittelson are the parents of two children, a boy, Carl, ten years old, and a girl, Alice, seven years old. Mr. Kittelson is a member of the United Brethren church and warmly interested in all its good works. He takes a good citizen's interest in all community affairs, but has never been a seeker after public office.

CHARLES PALLAS.

Charles Pallas, an energetic and substantial farmer of Humboldt township, Clay county, proprietor of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres in section 17 of that township and actively engaged in the raising of Holstein cattle and Poland China hogs, was born in the city of Chicago, state of Illinois, in 1877. He is a son of Louis and Carolina Pallas, the former of whom is still living and the latter is deceased.

Louis Pallas, who has now reached the advanced age of eighty-three years, was born in Germany in 1834 and was educated in the schools of that country. At the age of twenty-five, in 1859, he immigrated to the United States, and lived for several years in the state of Illinois. He is now living with his children. He farmed near Barnesville, this county, for several years. His wife, Carolina Pallas, was born in 1840 and died in September, 1905, aged sixty-five years. They were the parents of the following children: John, Gustie, Helena and Charles.

Charles Pallas was educated in the schools of the city of Chicago and later followed the occupation of a farmer. About the year 1902 he came to Clay county and bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 16, Barnesville township. Some time later he moved to section 7 of the same township and lived there for seven years. In the fall of 1912 he bought his present farm of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land, located in section 17, Humboldt township, where he is engaged in general farming and stock raising and since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his farm being in excellent condition. His place is well improved and his dwelling house and outbuildings are models of their class. He raises an excellent strain of Holstein cattle, which finds a ready market, as do the Poland China hogs which he raises. Mr. Pallas conducts his farming operations according to modern methods and he is accounted one of the substantial and progressive farmer of this section of the county. He allocates a portion of his land to the cultivation of potatoes and usually plants about one hundred acres to that branch of production.

On June 18, 1904, Charles Pallas was united in marriage to Minnie Burke, who was born in the state of Illinois in 1884. To this union the following children were born: Vernie, Clarina and Arnold, who are living at home with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Pallas take a proper interest in the welfare of the district in which they live, helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the common good of the community. Mr. Pallas gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs, with special regard to the educational conditions, and is at present a member of the district school board; in other ways also he has given of his time and energy for the public good.

AKE THEODORE AKESSON.

Another of the successful Clay county farmers of Swedish origin, is Ake T. Akesson, a well-known general farmer, owner of a fine farm in section 13, Riverton township, Clay county. He was born in the kingdom of Sweden in 1874, but has been a resident of this country and of Minnesota state since he was fourteen years of age. He is a son of Ole and Inga Akesson, who were also born in Sweden.

Ole Akesson was born in Sweden in 1843 and was educated in the schools of that country, and is still living there. He commenced his life occupation as a farmer and continues that mode of life at present. His

wife, who was also born in Sweden, died in 1900 at the age of forty-four years. They were active and influential residents of the district in which they made their home and Mrs. Akesson's passing at a comparatively early age was a source of general regret to the friends of the family. Ole and Inga Akesson were the parents of the following children: Emil, Ingebor, Gerda, Axel, Anna, in this country; Oscar, also in the United States; Berna and Ake T., the subject of this sketch.

Ake T. Akesson was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm, where as a boy he assisted in the farming operations. At the age of fourteen in 1888, he left Sweden and came to America and immediately engaged in farm work, continuing at the labor for some years, meanwhile saving all the available money with the view to the purchase of land on his own account. In 1906 he moved to Moorhead, Clay county, and resumed work on the farm. In 1912 he bought his present tract of land, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 13, River-ton township, and on this farm he carries on general farming. Since the commencement of his operations he has been most successful, everything about his farm being in excellent condition. He sets out an average of twenty-five acres of his holding to the cultivation of potatoes. Mr. Akesson carried out many valuable improvements, including the erection of out-buildings and fences, and his place ranks among the best in the township.

In 1912 Ake T. Akesson was united in marriage to Annie Norman, who was born in Sweden in 1862 and came to America in 1910, first to Hawley and then to Moorhead, where the marriage took place. They are the parents of three children as follows: Kenneth, Eugene and Phyllis, all of whom are living with their parents. Mr. and Mrs. Akesson take a proper interest in the general social activities of the township and are helpful factors in the promotion of all causes having for their object the promotion of the common good of the community.

ANDREW ROSTVOLD.

Andrew Rostvold, one of Norman county's well-known and substantial farmers and the owner of three hundred and twenty acres in Lee township, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this state since he was a child. He was born in Norway in 1862, a son of Arndt A. and Mollie (Helland) Rostvold, natives of that same country, who became pioneers in Minnesota and whose last days were spent in Norman county.

Arndt A. Rostvold was born on December 7, 1826, and remained in his native land until about 1868 or 1869, when he came to this country and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he made preparations for establishing a new home. He then sent for his wife and made his home in Fillmore county for seven years, at the end of which time he came up into the Red River country with his family and settled on a homestead farm in Hendrum township, Norman county, having homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 32 of that township. He made substantial improvements on that place and bought other land, becoming one of the well-to-do pioneers of that part of the county. There he and his wife spent their last days. He died in 1907, he then being eighty-two years of age, and his widow survived for seven years, her death occurring in 1914. She was born on January 2, 1832, and was also eighty-two years of age at the time of her death. They were the parents of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Anna, deceased; John, who is living on the old home place in Hendrum township, and Caroline, a widow, now living at Tacoma, Washington.

Andrew Rostvold was not yet eight years of age when he came with his mother to this country and rejoined his father in Fillmore county, this state. There he spent his boyhood on a pioneer farm and received his schooling in the neighborhood schools, continuing his schooling for a couple of months after coming up into this part of the state with his parents. He retains the most distinct recollection of the long journey up here behind an ox-team, the trip from Fillmore county requiring four weeks. Upon his arrival here he took an active part in the labors of developing and improving the home farm in Hendrum township and twenty years ago bought from his father the farm on which he is now living, in section 5 of Lee township. He later bought a quarter section in section 4 of that same township and now has a well-improved and profitably cultivated farm of three hundred and twenty acres, all the improvements on the place having been made by himself. In addition to his general farming Mr. Rostvold has given considerable attention to the raising of live stock and has done well in his operations.

In 1888, at Hendrum, Andrew Rostvold was united in marriage to Anna Rostvold, who also was born in Norway, in 1869, a sister of Lars H. Rostvold, a biographical sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, and to this union thirteen children have been born, namely: Arndt, who is married and is now operating a garage at Hendrum; Halvor, a carpenter, who also is married and makes his home at Hendrum; Matilda, wife of J.

Stordahl; John, deceased; Alfreda, a professional nurse; Alfred, Martin, Nels, Mollie, Anna, Arnold and Edmund, at home, and Gerhard, deceased. The Rostvolds are members of the Lutheran church and take a proper interest in the affairs of the same, Mr. Rostvold being a deacon of the local congregation. The family have a pleasant home in Lee township and have ever taken an interested part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

G. T. INGBERG

G. T. Ingberg, a well-known merchant of Hendrum, former president of the council of that village, secretary and treasurer of the Hendrum Co-operative Elevator Company, treasurer of the Hendrum Telephone Company and in other ways actively identified with the expanding interests of that part of Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country since 1888 and of Minnesota since 1890, that having been the year in which he settled in Norman county, where he ever since has made his home. He was born on December 29, 1868, son of Thomas and Julia (Stenseng) Ingberg, also natives of Norway and the former of whom is still living there on his farm in Ringsakar. Thomas Ingberg and wife were the parents of seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Karen, Johan, Sina, Mary, Ole and Christine, all of whom are still living in their native Norway with the exception of the subject of this sketch and his sisters, Sina and Mary, who came to the United States. All the members of this family are living save the mother, who died some years ago.

G. T. Ingberg was reared on a farm in his native land and received his schooling in the schools of his home neighborhood. He remained at home until he was twenty years of age, when, in 1888, he came to the United States and proceeded on up here into the Red River valley, his point of destination being Grafton, over in Walsh county, North Dakota. In that vicinity he began working at farm labor and was thus engaged there for about eighteen months, at the end of which time, in 1890, he came over the river into Minnesota and began farming in Hendrum township, Norman county, and remained thus engaged there for about six years. On January 1, 1897, Mr. Ingberg began clerking in a store at Hendrum and a year later, in 1898, started a store of his own in that village and has ever since been

engaged in business there. Mr. Ingberg has a well-stocked general store and during the nearly twenty years he has been engaged in business at Hendrum has built up a large business. Not only has he been successful in his own business, but he has given much attention to the general business affairs of the community and has been one of the leaders in the promotion of enterprises looking to the common welfare, being now the secretary and treasurer of the Hendrum Co-operative Elevator Company and treasurer of the Hendrum Telephone Company. Mr. Ingberg also has given a good citizen's attention to the civic affairs of his home town, has served as a member of the village council and has been president of the same.

In 1897 G. T. Ingberg was united in marriage to Margaret Enger, daughter of Christ J. Enger, and to this union five children have been born, Chester, Julia, Thomas, Edna and Mildred. Mr. and Mrs. Ingberg are members of the Lutheran church and take an active interest in church affairs, as well as in the general good works of the community in which they live.

JENS R. RAMSEY.

Jens R. Ramsey, a well-known and substantial farmer of Home Lake township, former member of the local school board and former member of the township board, is a native of the state of Iowa, but has been a resident of Norman county since he was twenty-four years old. He was born in Iowa in 1855, a son of Rognald and Martha Ramsey, natives of Norway, who came to this country while they were yet young.

Rognald Ramsey was educated in the schools of Norway and before coming to this country spent some time at farm labor in his native land. He lived in Freeborn county, Minnesota, at the time of his death and had been a farmer there for several years. He died about 1907, having reached the age of seventy years. His widow survived until 1911, then her death occurred at the age of eighty-four. They were the parents of the following children: Anna, living with her brother Ole; Hans, a farmer on the old place in Freeborn county, Iowa; Jens, the subject of this sketch; Ole, the owner of land in Home Lake township; Elling and Peter, partners in a hardware store at Twin Valley; Mary, living on the old place with Hans, and Louis, a farmer living in Colorado.

Jens R. Ramsey was educated in the schools of Iowa and at the age of twenty-four moved to Norman county and lived first near Twin Valley.

where he worked out on farms for three years. The next four years were spent with his brother Ole, the two working together. About 1884 he took the place on which he now resides, a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 20, Home Lake township, which he immediately proceeded to get into a state of cultivation. Later, he bought forty acres in section 19 and two "forties" in section 20; he also has twenty-eight acres of pre-emption land near Twin Valley. Mr. Ramsey is engaged in general farming and in the raising of common stock and from the very beginning of his agricultural operations he has been successful. He has added many valuable improvements to his holdings, has set out groves and fences, and he is generally regarded as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

Jens R. Ramsey was united in marriage to Emma Spilde, born in 1863 in Freeborn county, this state, and died in 1908 at the age of forty-five years. Her parents have been deceased for some years. Jens R. and Emma Ramsey became the parents of the following children: Julia, a school teacher; Louis; Alma, working in Fargo; Minnie; Mrs. Ruth Knutson, living in Fargo; Edwin; Clara, working in Fargo; Selma, Tina, Ella, Joseph and Dora, all living at home. Mr. Ramsey and the members of his family are affiliated with the Synod church and earnestly interested in all its good works. He gives a good citizen's attention to all matters affecting the welfare of the local community and served for several years on the school board and on the township board, rendering excellent service to those whom he represented. He assisted in the organization of the local creamery and is a stockholder in that undertaking, and in many other ways he has displayed a progressive spirit.

JOHN G. GANGLER.

John G. Gangler, one of the well-known and substantial farmers in the southern part of Clay county and the owner of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres on the line between Elmwood and Alliance townships, his home being in Elmwood and half of his farm lying in Alliance, is a native of Wisconsin, but has been a resident of Minnesota since he was four years of age, his parents having settled in Clay county in 1880. He was born on April 23, 1876, son of Joseph and Frances (Eckel) Gangler, the former of whom was born in Germany and the latter in the city of Milwaukee, Wis-

consin, and the former of whom is still living, now a resident of British Columbia.

Joseph Gangler was but two years of age when he came with his parents to this country, the family settling in Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood and married, continuing to make his home in that state until 1880, when he moved over into Minnesota with his family and proceeded on up into the Red River country, which then was beginning to attract settlers in large numbers, and homesteaded a quarter of a section of land south of Barnesville, in Clay county. He "proved up" that claim and made his home there for five or six years, at the end of which time he moved with his family into the village of Barnesville. Not long afterward, however, he bought another farm, northeast of Barnesville, in Humboldt township. For years Joseph Gangler served as clerk of Humboldt township and in other ways contributed of his time and energies to the public service. His wife died on the home farm in that township and he is still living, for some time past having been a resident of British Columbia. He is a Catholic, as was his wife, and their children were reared in that faith, the family being liberal supporters of the parish at Barnesville. There were thirteen of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second in order of birth, the others being Joseph, Minnie, Mary, George, Henry, Frank, Lena, Lewis, Frances, Roman, Clements and Ralph, all of whom are living save the first-born, Joseph, who died in 1902.

John G. Gangler received his schooling in the schools of Barnesville and grew up a practical farmer. Upon engaging in farming on his own account he started in Alliance township and remained there thus engaged for seven years, at the end of which time he bought the quarter section on which he is now living at the southern edge of Elmwood township, where he ever since has made his home. In the fall of 1916 he bought the quarter section adjoining the same to the south, over the line in Alliance township, and now has a well-improved place of three hundred and twenty acres, on which he is successfully engaged in general farming and potato raising. For five years after the rural mail service was established out of Baker Mr. Gangler carried a route out of that village, meanwhile, however, continuing to make his home on his farm. He is interested in the local telephone company and has other local interests, one of the most progressive citizens of that part of the county.

In 1902 John G. Gangler was united in marriage to Kate M. Berk, daughter of Michael Berk and wife, of Clay county, and to this union four

children have been born, Ruth, Margaret, Madaline and Florence. Mr. and Mrs. Gangler are members of the Catholic church at Barnesville and take a proper interest in the general affairs of the parish, as well as in other local good works.

HANS J. NELSON.

The late Hans J. Nelson, who was the owner and operator of two hundred forty acres of excellent land in Strand and Sundahl townships, Norman county, was born in Norway, September 15, 1847, a son of Johanes and Bertha (Andresven) Nelson, both of whom were born in Norway, where they grew up, married, reared their family and spent their whole lives, the former being the owner of a small farm. They were the parents of four children, all of whom are supposed to be living except the subject of this review; they are Anna, Martin and Nickoli.

Hans J. Nelson was reared on the old home place in Norway, where in his late maturity and early manhood he helped his father in the operation of the family holding. When he had reached the age of thirty years, he decided to join some of his countrymen who were coming to America to establish for themselves new homes in this new country and he landed here in 1877. At first he located in Wisconsin, but he later removed to Moore county, Minnesota, where he was married to Martha Marie Johnson. They took up their residence in that county, remaining there until 1889, in which year they removed to Norman county and located on the farm which his family is still on. He first bought two hundred acres which lie on Strand and Sundahl townships and he immediately began the improvement of the same by breaking the stubborn prairie sod in preparation for his first year's crop, by planting a grove and erecting substantial buildings which stand in Strand township. After a few years of successful farming, he was enabled to add to his holdings by the purchase of a forty-acre tract which adjoined his original farm. It was here on the home farm that his death occurred on October 22, 1908, after he had so successfully brought his holding from its wild state to the point of remarkably high cultivation and improvement. The home place has been operated by his son John for the past eight or nine years.

On May 22, 1882, that Mr. Nelson was united in marriage with Martha Marie Johnson, who was born in Norway, April 5, 1854, a daughter of Johanes and Pernile Compdocken, both of whom were natives of Norway.

the former dying there and the latter coming in 1882 to America, where her death occurred in Moore county, Minnesota. In 1875, when Mrs. Nelson was twenty-one years of age, she preceded her mother to this country and settled in Moore county, Minnesota, where she met and married Mr. Nelson. She had five brothers and sisters, as follow: Andrew, Peter, Johana, Helena, all of whom died, and Hans, who lives in Minnesota. To Mr. and Mrs. Nelson have been born four children all of whom are living on the old home farm; they are: Julia, Helen, John and Berthine. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson were very active members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Strand, and in accordance with the precepts of this faith they reared their children. Although Mr. Nelson took a good citizen's interest in the civil and social affairs of the community in which he lived, he never sought public office, having given his undivided attention to his agricultural pursuits and the improvement and development of his farm.

WILLIAM JOSEPH BODKIN.

One of the well-remembered citizens of Moorhead, Clay county, is the late William Joseph Bodkin, who died on May 1, 1916, a former sheriff of the county, an honored veteran of the Civil War, and known for years throughout the county as an extensive farmer and dealer in real estate.

William Joseph Bodkin was born in New York City on September 27, 1845, and was educated in the schools of that city, where he continued to reside for some years. In 1870 he came West, being engaged in the government service as an internal revenue officer, and located at Breckenridge, coming in the following year to Clay county, where he bought land. He enlisted for service in the Union army during the Civil War, held the rank of sergeant in Company E, One Hundred and Fourth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and saw much active service. He was wounded in the neck during the course of one engagement at Chickamauga and was with Sherman on the march to the sea, being mustered out at the end of the war. For years Mr. Bodkin was an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic, being warmly interested in the affairs of that patriotic organization.

Mr. Bodkin was for years an active participant in the public and political affairs of Clay county and served as sheriff of the county for twelve years, serving with fidelity in that important office. He was extensively engaged

in farming and real estate, being one of the best-known agriculturists for miles around, owning a full section of land in Kragness township, Clay county, and property at Moorhead. For many years he was engaged as a contractor in the bridge-building line, and carried out many important contracts in that line, meeting with considerable success. He died on May 1, 1916, having reached the age of seventy one years, and his passing was the occasion for general mourning, it being recognized throughout the community that a distinct loss had been sustained in his death, he having well done his part during his many years of intimate association with the affairs of Clay county.

William J. Bodkin was united in marriage to Inger Gorder, born on August 10, 1854, in Christiania, Norway, and at the age of ten years came to America with her father, who died many years later in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, the mother having died in her native country. Mrs. Bodkin had one sister, Mrs. Fred Ambs, of Moorhead. To Mr. and Mrs. Bodkin the following children were born: Mrs. Ada Tobey, of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Delia Morris, widow of Edwin L. Morris; and William J., Jr., Henry Lincoln, George and Henry, all deceased.

Mrs. Delia (Bodkin) Morris, widow of Edwin Lee Morris, is now residing with her mother at Moorhead. Edwin L. Morris was a native of New York state, born there on October 2, 1865, a son of John Blodgett and Laura (Lee) Morris, both also natives of the Empire state. Mr. Morris had been for some years in charge of the Indian schools in the state of Washington. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Morris occurred on February 20, 1900. Mr. Morris died at Fargo on February 10, 1915. He had many interests of a commercial character and was a man of sound business principles.

THOMAS M. ROACH.

Thomas M. Roach, a well-to-do and progressive farmer, breeder of Shorthorn and Hereford cattle and Percheron horses, owner of a fine farm of four hundred acres in Highland Grove township, Clay county, is a native of the old Empire state, but with the exception of a couple of years spent outside Minnesota, has been a resident of Clay county since the days of his young manhood. He was born in St. Lawrence county, New York, July 9, 1854, a son of James and Julia (Sullivan) Roach, natives of Ireland.

James and Julia Roach left the Emerald Isle in 1848, a year memorable in the annals of that country as witnessing the departure of thousands of emi-

grants, owing to the abnormal conditions brought about through the famine of the preceding year. James Roach settled in St. Lawrence county, New York, and in 1870 moved to Duluth, Minnesota, and in the following year came to Clay county. Mr. Roach, accompanied by his son, Thomas M., left Brainard, Minnesota, and walked directly to the farm now in the possession of the latter, located in section 24, Highland Grove township. Here James Roach homestead one hundred and sixty acres of land and in the following year, 1872, the other members of the family took up their residence on the same place, having made the trip by team from Brainard. James Roach put up the first buildings on his homestead farm and set out a grove, which improved the appearance of the place very much. As he prospered in his farming operations he continued to add to his holding, finally becoming the owner of two hundred and forty acres of prime land and here he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives, honored and respected throughout the community. They were the parents of eight children, two of whom are deceased, the others being as follow: Thomas M., John, Ellen, Mary Ann, Julia and Catherine. James Roach and his wife were members of the Catholic church and their children were reared in the same faith. Mr. Roach helped to organize the Catholic church at Lake Park.

Thomas M. Roach accompanied his parents from his birthplace to Hancock, Michigan, where he attended school and where he was reared; it was a lumber and mining town. In that place his father was connected with the lumber industry and in that place, also, Thomas M. Roach worked as a miner, and between the years 1871 and 1879 he divided his time between his father's place and the mines. In the latter year he started alone for the Black Hills and walked from the point now known as Bismark, North Dakota, to Lead City, in the Black Hills, a distance of two hundred and ninety-six miles. The journey occupied nine days, the walking being done by night and the sleeping by day, to avoid coming in contact or conflict with any nomadic Indians, then numerous in that country. There he worked for a period of two years with the Home State Mining Company and at the end of that time returned to his father's place, where he has since lived. Since acquiring the old homestead Mr. Roach has added many improvements and is now the owner of four hundred acres of prime land, all in one tract. In addition to his farming operations he raises choice strains of Shorthorn and Hereford cattle and Percheron horses, finding a ready market in and about the county and outside, and he is generally known as one of the progressive and prosperous farmers of Highland Grove township.

In 1880 Thomas M. Roach was united in marriage to Mary Claffey, of Hawley, Minnesota, a daughter of Michael Claffey and wife. To this union twelve children have been born, four of whom died young, the others being as follow: John, James, Thomas, Morris, Lawrence, Julia, Ellen and Catherine, these eight children being still alive. The Roach family are members of the Catholic church and are earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in the welfare of the community in which they reside, always ready to assist any worthy project calculated to advance the common good.

ROBERT B. WEBB.

Robert B. Webb, a member of the board of county commissioners of Clay county, formerly and for years engaged in the grain business at Glyndon, later engaged in the sale of farm machinery at that place and now actively engaged in the dairy business there, owner of one of the best dairy herds in the county, is a native of the state of New York, but has been a resident of the Northwest since he was but a child and of Minnesota and Clay county since 1878, being very properly therefore regarded as one of the old settlers of this part of the state. He was born on a farm in Columbia county, New York, January 21, 1846, son of Sylvester T. and Eliza (Harrington) Webb, both also natives of the Empire state, who moved from there in 1850 to Wisconsin and became pioneers in Walworth county, one of the southernmost counties of that state. There Mrs. Webb spent her last days and there Mr. Webb is still living, being now past ninety-three years of age. He is a member of the Methodist church, as was his wife. They became the parents of five children, four sons and one daughter, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being William, Silas, Mark T. and Ava.

As noted above, Robert B. Webb was but four years of age when his parents moved from New York state to Wisconsin in 1850 and in the latter state he grew to manhood on the pioneer farm in Walworth county, receiving his schooling at Geneva Lake and at Milton Academy. For five winters he taught school in his home county, meanwhile continuing farming during the summers, and then, in 1878, came up into the Red River country and bought a tract of land southwest of the village of Glyndon, on which he established his home. Two years later he moved to the village of Glyndon and was for thirteen years thereafter engaged there as the local agent for

the Duluth Elevator Company. He then resumed farming, at the same time engaging in the sale of farm machinery, and was thus engaged for about nine years, at the end of which time he turned his attention more particularly to the dairy side of farming and has since created at Glyndon one of the best-equipped dairy farms in this county. Mr. Webb has ninety-three acres at the edge of the village and has a very comfortable home there. He maintains an excellent Guernsey herd and the products of his dairy are in wide demand. He formerly owned a quarter of a section of land farther out. Mr. Webb has for years taken an active part in political affairs, has held various local offices of trust and responsibility and since 1902, by successive re-elections, has been serving the county as a member of the board of county commissioners from his district.

In 1868, ten years before coming up into Minnesota, Robert B. Webb was united in marriage to Anna Jewell, daughter of Almon Jewell and wife, pioneers of southern Wisconsin, and to this union five children have been born, Halbert L., Bertha M., Clara B., Hattie E. and Robert B., Jr., all of whom are living at Glyndon, Halbert L. Webb being the present postmaster of that village. The Webbs are members of the Congregational church and take an interested part in the general good works and social activities of their home town.

ESTEN T. WIEGEN.

Esten T. Wiegen, a well-known farmer of Hegne township, owner of a well-kept and compact farm of one hundred and twenty acres of choice land, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of the United States for thirty-seven years and of Norman county since 1901. He is the son of Thor and Karen (Wiegen) Wiegen, and was born on March 9, 1854, three miles from Trondhjem, Norway.

Thor and Karen Wiegen, parents of the subject of this sketch were both born in Norway and spent all their lives in that country, where they were engaged in the farming industry and were respected and representative citizens of the community in which they resided. Thor Wiegen was a farmer by occupation and gave all the active years of his life to that calling, to which he brought up his son, Esten T., and to whom he imparted the fundamentals of successful husbandry. Thor and Karen Wiegen were the parents of the following children: Edward, still living on the old home farm in Nor-

way; Esten T., the subject of this sketch; Ole living near Bemidji, this state; Severt, who lives with his brother, Esten T.; Bernt, living in Hegne township; Thorsten, also of Hegne township; Mart and Pauline, in Norway, and Peter, who died young. Thor Wiegen and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the faith of that denomination.

Esten T. Wiegen was educated in the schools of his native land and was reared on his father's farm, where he became a valued assistant in the labors of improving and developing the home place. At the age of twenty-six, in 1880, he immigrated to America and on arrival in this country he proceeded on out to this state, going to Barnesville, where he worked with a steel gang in the construction of the Great Northern railroad from Barnesville to Ada. He then worked for the Northern Pacific railroad on construction work, spending in all a period of three years. Mr. Wiegen's next move was to the farm and he engaged with Wilhelm Ray, a farmer, living two miles of Fargo, in Cass county, North Dakota, and worked there for sixteen years, or up to the time of Mr. Ray's death, after which he continued with the son for two years. In the meantime, about 1897, he had bought one hundred and twenty acres of railroad land in section 13, Hegne township, this county, and worked out on other farms until he had the holding paid for. The tract was all wild land and the task of clearing and preparing it for crops was a heavy one. He has the place in a thorough state of cultivation and has erected substantial and modern buildings and is generally regarded as a successful and progressive farmer, whose operations are conducted along modern agricultural lines. Mr. Wiegen is a member of the Lutheran church and earnestly interested in all its good works, as well as in all movements designed to serve the community at large.

IVER N. ELLINGSON.

Iver N. Ellingson, well-known and substantial farmer, owner of two hundred acres of prime land in Bear Park township, Norman county, connected with various mercantile pursuits and active in public affairs, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this country for thirty-seven years. He was born in Norway on March 20, 1859, a son of Nels and Carrie (Jacobsdatter) Ellingson, both natives of the same country and who came to

America about 1893 and lived the remainder of their lives with their son, Iver N. Ellingson. Nels Ellingson died on May 14, 1909, aged eighty-three years, and his wife died on October 27, 1901, aged seventy-six years, and both were laid to rest at the Ness Congregational cemetery. The father was a farmer in Norway. They were the parents of seven children as follow: Karen (deceased), Johanna, still living in Norway, Edward, Iver N., John, Mary and Nels. Nels is in Norway, all the others are in the United States of America. The parents were members of the Lutheran church and earnestly interested in its good works.

Iver N. Ellingson was educated in the schools of Norway and reared on his father's farm, until fifteen years old; then hired out as fisherman on the northwest coast of Norway. In 1881 he immigrated to America, directly on arrival proceeding to Ada, Minnesota, working on farms there and in North Dakota and Wisconsin, but made his home with an uncle, Ingebright Ellingson, in Hendrum township, Norman county, for some years. In the fall of 1889 he started farming for himself in section 13, Hendrum township, having two years previously bought eighty acres of land in that township and in 1892 acquired a further tract of one hundred and sixty acres. On his first holding, which was all unimproved, he erected some good buildings and broke the sod for tillage, breaking fifty acres with the aid of three steers. In March, 1898, Mr. Ellingson came to his present farm in Bear Park township, having sold his place in Hendrum township, and bought one hundred and forty acres the first year and the following year added a further sixty acres, all of which is given over to general farming, at the same time raising graded Shorthorn cattle, for which he finds a ready market. He has erected substantial buildings to replace the log structures on the holding when he took it over, and he is regarded as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

In the fall of 1889 Iver N. Ellingson was united in marriage to Ellen Serena Stennes, born in Norway, a daughter of Severt Stennes and wife. To this union the following children have been born: Nels, who died at the age of two and one-half years; Selmer Julius, Clara Marie and Sophia Amanda. Nels Edwin, Ida Eliza, Joseph Helmer, Clarence Anfin, Sena Augusta, Martin Kermit and John Ingvald. Mr. Ellingson helped to organize the Lutheran church in Hendrum township. He has always taken as active interest in mercantile affairs and assisted in the promotion of the Farmers Elevator at Hendrum, the Sundahl Mercantile Company and the Sundahl Creamery. In partnership with three other farmers he owned and operated a thresher in Hendrum township. He is interested in the Independent Har-

vester Company in Plain, Illinois, and was formerly interested in the Farmers Elevator at Gary until it burned. While living in Hendrum township Mr. Ellingson served as road overseer for several years. In Bear Park township he has served as road overseer two or three terms, and is regarded throughout the township as an enterprising and public-spirited citizen.

CARL K. OLSON.

Carl K. Olson, a substantial farmer of Anthony township, Norman county, where he owns two hundred acres of good farming land, and a well-known resident of this community, was born in Halstad township, Norman county, December 29, 1877, a son of Knut and Olena (Helbrud) Olson, both natives of Norway, who came to America and settled in Fillmore county, Minnesota, where the father worked during 1872-73. In the last year mentioned, Knut Olson yoked a team of oxen to a covered wagon into which he loaded his household goods and farming implements, with his family joined two other families, and drove directly through from Fillmore to Norman county. One of the members of this party was Ole E. Olson, now deceased, who was one of the pioneers of Halstad township, Norman county. Soon after Knut Olson arrived in the county, he homesteaded eighty acres in Halstad township, and his mother, who came with him, also homesteaded a tract of equal size nearby. There he lived on his holding until his death occurred, and during his life he entered actively into the affairs of the new community. As soon as the population of what is now Halstad township reached the requisite size, he and his neighbors organized it into the present civil unit, and he served his community as township supervisor. Not only was he interested in the initiation of the civil existence of the township, but he was also instrumental in the establishment of the Augustana Lutheran church. He and his wife, who now lives his widow on the old home place, were the parents of nine children, namely: Ole K., John, Mary, Albert, Carl, the subject of this review; William, Bertha, Emma and George B., the latter deceased.

Carl K. Olson, being born and reared in Norman county, received here his common-school education, and later he entered Concordia College, at Moorhead, graduating from the same. Soon after the completion of his higher education, he left the parental roof and went to Anthony township, where he has since lived after starting for himself in farming. As the year passed,

prosperity smiled upon him in his endeavor and he now is the owner of two hundred and forty acres of excellent land on which he has placed modern farm improvements. In addition to his general farming operations, he breeds thoroughbred Poland China hogs and thus contributes much to the improvement of stock in his county.

In 1906, Mr. Olson married Linda Anderson, who was born in Anthony township, Norman county, the daughter of O. J. Anderson and wife, who came to this county. To this union have been born the following children: Clifford, Florence, Roy and Grace. Mr. Olson and family are conscientious and consistent members of the Lutheran church, and in the affairs of this denomination they are imbued with deep interest. Mr. Olson has found time in his very busy career on his farm to take a good citizen's interest in the civil affairs of his community, having served for many years on the township board of which he is still a member. He is also a director of the Halstad Fire Insurance Company.

SEVERT S. LURA.

Severt S. Lura, a substantial and progressive farmer, owner of a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres and also engaged in the raising of stock, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, born there on July 23, 1861, but has been a resident of Norman county since his arrival in this country in 1882. He is a son of Severt and Sebela Lura, who were born in Norway and spent all their lives in that country.

Severt Lura, father of the subject of this sketch, was educated in the schools of Norway and was brought up to the calling of a ship carpenter. He died when his son, Severt S., was two years old. His wife, Sebela Lura, remained in Norway and died in 1914 at the great age of ninety-three years. They were the parents of five children, those besides Severt S., who was the fourth in the order of birth, being Salver, Isaac, Hannah and Mary, all of whom are still living. The parents of these children were earnest members of the Lutheran church and their children were reared in the same faith.

Severt S. Lura was educated in the schools of Norway and worked as a farm laborer there for several years, at the end of which time he decided to try his fortune in America. In 1882, at the age of twenty-one he immigrated to the United States and on arrival at the port of entry he pro-

ceeded on out to Minnesota and came to Ada, Norman county, where he has ever since resided. He worked for about twelve years in Ada and Halstad, respectively, for a lumber company and having exercised thrifty habits, he had accumulated enough money to enable him to buy one hundred and sixty acres of land in Hegne township, and on this holding he has since remained, engaged in general farming and stock raising, his efforts from the very commencement of his agricultural operations having been successful. Mr. Lura has effected some considerable improvements on his holding, having erected substantial farm buildings and set out a nice grove, which enhances the value of the property. Since acquiring the original quarter section he has added another one hundred and sixty acres, and is generally regarded as one of the energetic and progressive farmers of the township.

In 1898 Severt S. Lura was united in marriage to Hannah P. Hood, who was born in Norway and came to America at the age of eighteen years, alone, going on arrival to Halstad, this county. To the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lura have been born as follow: Clara, Selma, Inga, Pearl, Mary, Ollie, Lallie, Inez, Ruby and Clarence, all of whom are living. The Lura family are members of the Lutheran church and are active in all its good works. Mr. Lura gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs and has held offices in connection with the schools of the township and is now serving on the local school board.

Mrs. Lura's parents were Peter and Carolina (Hood) Peterson, both of whom were born in Norway, Peter Peterson dying in that country when his daughter (Mrs. Lura) was eleven years old. The mother is still living in Norway. They were the parents of five children as follow: Nettie, Tina, Hannah, Bertina, deceased, and Gena. When Mrs. Hannah Lura came to America she took the name of Hood, which was her mother's family name.

P. A. GRANDE.

P. A. Grande, at present working for the Twin Valley Hardware and Implement Company at Twin Valley, and owner of a quarter of a section of land up in Beltrami county, is a native son of Minnesota and has lived in this state all his life. He was born on a farm in Houston county on January 25, 1867, son of A. P. and Annie (Peterson-Quale) Grande, natives of the kingdom of Norway, the former born in Trondjhem and the latter in

Westlieders, who were married in the summer of 1865 in Houston county, Minnesota. They located in Houston county, where they remained until the spring of 1871, when they came up into this part of the state and settled in Becker county. Upon his arrival in Becker county A. P. Grande preempted a quarter of a section of land two miles north of Lake Park and there made his home until 1879, when he disposed of his holdings there to advantage and moved up into the country, at that time Polk county, that later was organized as Norman county, and which then was beginning to attract numerous settlers. He homesteaded a quarter section in what later became organized as Fossum township and was thus one of the first settlers of that township. There he made his home until his retirement from the farm and removal in 1910 to Twin Valley, where he spent his last days and where his widow is still living, his death occurring there on March 18, 1915. He was a member of the Lutheran (Synod) church, as is his widow, and their children were reared in that faith. There were eight of these children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the first-born, the others being G. B., L. C., M. J., Clara (deceased), A. J., Ole and Anna.

P. A. Grande was but four years of age when his parents came up here from Houston county and he grew up amid pioneer conditions, receiving his schooling in the schools of Lake Park and of Fossum. From the days of his boyhood he was a valued help to his father in the labors of improving and developing the home farm in Fossum township and remained there until he was twenty-six years of age, when he bought a farm up in the neighborhood of Grand Forks and remained there until 1897, in which year he married and located at Ulen, in Clay county, where he engaged in the harness business and was thus engaged at that place for four years, at the end of which time, in 1901, he returned to Norman county and bought a quarter of a section of land in the vicinity of Hendrum, where he made his home and where he was engaged in farming until 1906, in which year he traded for a half interest in a general merchandise store at Hendrum and was there engaged in business for three years. He then moved to Waubun and was there engaged in the restaurant business for six months, or until in February, 1910, when he moved to Twin Valley, where he since has made his home and where he is now engaged with the Twin Valley Hardware and Implement Company. In addition to his interests at Twin Valley, Mr. Grande is the owner of a quarter of a section of land up in Beltrami county. During his residence at Ulen Mr. Grande served as a member of the village council and also served the public in a similar capacity during his residence in Hendrum.

On January 15, 1897, P. A. Grande was united in marriage to Helga D. Peterson, daughter of P. G. Peterson and wife. Mr. and Mrs. Grande are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take a proper part in church work.

ALBERT C. GLAWE.

Albert C. Glawe, a well-known and energetic farmer of Humboldt township, owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, that township, is a native of the state of Illinois, but has been a resident of Clay county since 1903. He was born in 1860 in Winnebago county, Illinois, a son of Charles and Christine (Peterson) Glawe, both of whom were natives of Germany and who were married in that country before immigrating to America.

Charles Glawe was born in Germany in the year 1835 and was educated in the schools of that country. He followed the occupation of a farmer in his native land and resumed his work at that calling on settling in this country. At the age of thirty-two, in 1867, he and his wife came to the United States and some years later went to Iowa and settled in Greene county, that state, continuing to live in that place for forty-two years. He became the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land and was known to be an industrious and painstaking farmer, developing and improving his holding as he prospered in his agricultural labors. His death occurred on May 16, 1917, at the age of eighty-two. His wife was born in Germany about 1838, was married in that country and accompanied her husband to America in 1867. Her death took place in March, 1904, at the age of sixty-six years. To Charles Glawe and wife the following children were born: Edward, married and living in Greene county, Iowa; Albert C., the subject of this sketch; Anna, married and living in Fairmount, Minnesota; Mary, married and living in Paiton, Iowa; William, also married, lives in Dana, Iowa; Amanda, who is married and living in the latter place, and Mathilda, married, living in Waverly, Iowa.

Albert C. Glawe accompanied his parents to Iowa and was educated in the schools of Greene county, that state, and reared on his father's farm. From boyhood he was an able assistant in the labors of developing and improving the home place and received expert advice in farming under the guidance of his father. In 1903 Mr. Glawe moved to Clay county and purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of prime land, located in

section 2, Humboldt township, and here is engaged in general farming and since the beginning of his operations he has been most successful. He has his holding fenced and erected a new granary, and he is recognized as an energetic and progressive farmer, who conforms to modern methods in the work of the farm.

In February, 1900, Albert C. Glawe was united in marriage to Julia Nugent, who was born in Will county, Illinois, in March, 1869. The marriage took place in Emmet county, Iowa. To this union two children have been born, Lister and Thomas, who are at home with their parents. Mr. Glawe gives a good citizen's attention to local civic affairs and served as a member of the township school board for six years, bringing to the duties of that office a ripe intelligence and sound judgment, and in other ways he has given evidence of his interest in all matters affecting the public welfare.

KARELIUS J. SKAVDAHL.

Among the progressive farmers of Halstad township, Norman county, there are few who have taken a more active part in promoting the general agricultural and business affairs of that community than have Karelius J. Skavdahl, and Gnerius J. Skavdahl, proprietors of a fine farm in that township. Karelius was formerly chairman of the board of township supervisors and prominently identified with the work of the creamery and of the co-operative elevator at Halstad. Though a native of another land, he has been a resident of this section of Minnesota since the days of the pioneers, having settled in Norman county the year in which the county attained a separate governmental status, and has thus been a witness to and a participant in the development of this region almost from the very beginning of that development.

Karelius J. Skavdahl was born in the kingdom of Norway on August 6, 1858, and there grew to manhood, remaining there until 1881, in which year he and Gnerius his elder brother, came to Minnesota, and settled at Halstad. In 1883 he was joined here by his parents, Johannes and Ingeborg Anna (Qveistad) Skavdahl, and settled on the farm on which he is now living, in Halstad township. On that place his parents spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Peter, Ole, Gnerius, Peter Lawrence and Anna Jorgena. Mr. Skavdahl has continued to make the farm on which he is now

living his home ever since he entered it the year after his arrival in Norman county. He now has two hundred seventy-five acres and has done well in his farming operations, his place being well improved and profitably cultivated. He planted a fine grove on the place and the same is now an admirable feature of the landscape in that section. Since 1892 K. J. Skavdahl has been operating a threshing-machine outfit and has done well in that line. He helped organize the creamery company at Halstad and was especially active in the work of organizing the farmers elevator movement at that same place, in both of these enterprises taking much interest. Mr. Skavdahl also has taken an interested part in general public affairs, has been clerk of the school board in his local district for many years and served for some time as a member of the board of township supervisors, for a time being chairman of the board. G. J. and K. J. Skavdahl have been working together on the same farm since 1882. They bought the first quarter section of land for seventeen hundred and ten dollars. There were no improvements and they were over two thousand dollars in debt at the start.

On December 29, 1904, Karelius J. Skavdahl was united in marriage to Maria Anthony, who also was born in Norway at Yttenöen, Trondhjem, daughter of Johan and Ane Magrethe Martinus, and to this union have been born four children: Johanus, Johan Arnt, Ingeborg Anna and Clara Matilda. Mr. and Mrs. Skavdahl are members of the Lutheran church and take an interested part in church work. The Skavdahl brothers have been members of the same Lutheran church since 1883. They have a pleasant home and give proper attention to the general social affairs of the neighborhood.

CARL KNUTSON.

Carl Knutson, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers in the northern part of Norman county, proprietor of a fine farm in Strand township, formerly and for twenty-five years chairman of the board of supervisors of that township, secretary of the creamery company at Gary, former president of the Farmers Elevator Company at that place and in other ways actively identified with the growing interests of that part of the county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since 1884, in which year he established himself on the place on which he is still living in Strand township and where he and his family are very comfortably and very pleasantly situated. He was born in the city of

Drammen, an important seaport of Norway situated on both sides of the Drammen river near its mouth in the Christiania fjord, thirty-three miles southwest of Christiania, January 23, 1852, son of Gabriel and Johanna (Olson) Knutson, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives in their native land. Gabriel Knutson was for years employed in a responsible position by an extensive carriage and sled factory, his business being to deliver the manufactured product of the factory, and was a man of standing. He and his wife were the parents of seven children, namely: Karen, Gustav, Bernhart (deceased), Carl, Johan (deceased), Emil and Gerhart. Of these children the subject of this sketch was the only one who came to America.

Reared in his native city of Drammen, Carl Knutson received there an excellent education and early qualified himself for manufacturing and commercial pursuits. Upon completing his schooling he went to Christiania, the capital, and was for seven years engaged there as the treasurer of a company operating an iron works. He then for seven years was engaged as a bookkeeper for a grain company and in the meantime was maturing his plans for coming to the United States, which project he carried out in 1884. Upon his arrival in this country he proceeded to Chicago and after six weeks spent there in making inquiries regarding the most likely place of settlement, he decided on this section of the Red River valley and came up here, having decided to settle in Norman county. In that same year, in partnership with John Sulrud, Mr. Knutson bought the tract of one hundred and sixty acres in Strand township, on which he is now living, and an additional ten acres nearby. Mr. Knutson soon bought his partner's interest in the place and proceeded to develop and improve the same in accordance with his own views, and it was not long until he had his place fairly well improved and in a way to profitable cultivation. In 1890, he by that time having created home-like surroundings on his farm, Mr. Knutson sent to Norway for his old sweetheart, Anna Christopherson, who also was born in that country, a daughter of Andrew Christopherson, and they were united in marriage within three hours after her arrival here and straightway entered upon the task of housekeeping on the place he had prepared with such devoted care against the time of her coming. Since then Mr. Knutson has made many substantial improvements on his place and has long had one of the best farm plants in that part of the county. In addition to his general farming, Mr. Knutson has given his studious and intelligent attention to the general business and civic affairs of his home community and has been one of the most prominent factors in the development of that region. For twenty-five years he served as chairman

of the board of township supervisors in his home township, retiring from office in the spring of 1917, and during that long period did much to bring about the proper development of Strand township. He helped in the organization of the local creamery company at Gary and has been secretary of that company from the time of its organization with the exception of three years, during which time the condition of his wife's health would not permit him to assume added responsibilities. When the Farmers Elevator Company was organized at Gary he was elected president of that concern and held that position for some years. In other ways also he has been helpful in advancing the common interests of the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Knutson have one child, a son, Harry Knutson, who is a valued assistant to his father in the latter's operations and who continues to make his home on the home place. The Knutsons are members of the United Lutheran church at Gary, which church Mr. Knutson helped to organize, and have ever taken an interested and influential part in church work, as well as in the general good works and social activities of the community in which they live.

J. H. FISCH.

One of the enterprising business men of Barnesville, Clay county, is J. H. Fisch, a contractor and builder, who has built up for himself a wide and enviable reputation in his chosen line of endeavor. Mr. Fisch is a native of Iowa, born January 24, 1879, in Iowa county, the son of Jacob and Mary (Hendry) Fisch, the former a native of Muscatine county, Iowa, and the latter of Glasgow, Scotland. His father is a farmer by occupation, and is now living in O'Brien county, Iowa. Jacob Fisch and wife are the parents of the following children, J. H., George, William, Roy, Cloyd, Jesse and Clevie.

J. H. Fisch received his education in the public schools of his native state, and as a young man learned the trade of a carpenter. At the early age of twenty he started contracting and building for himself. In 1892 he came to Clay county, Minnesota, locating at Barnesville, where he has since made his home. For the first three years after coming here he worked for others, the first year for W. H. Merritt, of Moorhead, Minnesota, and the next two years for Minnie & Summers, of Barnesville. In 1905 he engaged in the contracting and building business for himself here, and has made

remarkable progress in his line of work. He does contract building of all kinds, farm buildings, heating plants, and sidewalks, employing about twenty-five workmen on the various construction works. He is well known throughout the county and commands the patronage of the people within a radius of fifty miles, which speaks well for the quality of his work.

In 1907 J. H. Fisch was married to Martha Fankhanel, and to this union two children have been born, Pearl and Laurence. The family are earnest members of the Congregational church, and take an active interest in the affairs of the local church. Fraternally, Mr. Fisch is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

AANEN PEDERSON.

Aanen Pederson, a prosperous and progressive farmer, owner of two hundred and eighty acres of prime land in Bear Park township, Norman county, is another citizen of Norwegian birth who has rendered a good account of himself in the agricultural life of the community in which he lives. He was born in Norway on September 5, 1860, a son of Peder and Martha (Vikeness) Thommassen, both natives of Norway, where the latter died. Peder Thommassen immigrated to the United States in 1871 and on arriving in this country proceeded out to Minnesota, locating in Colfax township, Kandiyohi county, this state. He farmed in that place and remained on the farm for the remainder of his days. He was twice married. By his union to Martha Vikeness he became the father of four children: Aanen, Emma, Martha and Mary, who died in Norway. By his later marriage to Bertha Arneson several children were born.

Aanen Pederson was educated partly in the schools of Norway and of Kandiyohi county. At the age of seventeen he moved to Goodhue county, this state, and remained there until 1898 working at various occupations, but principally in the flour-mill at Kenyon. In the latter year he started on his own account by renting land in Sundahl township, later returning to Goodhue county and rented there for five years. In 1911 he moved to Norman county and made a first purchase of eighty acres, which he set out to general farming, and as he prospered in his agricultural operations he added more land to the extent of two hundred acres, making two hundred and eighty acres in all, which is in a state of excellent improvement and

Mr. Pederson is doing very well in his farming operations, being classed as one of the progressive farmers of the township.

On November 9, 1885, Aanen Pederson was united in marriage to Anna H. Werdahl, born in Goodhue county, a daughter of Ole H. and Aslaug Georgine (Wraalstad) Werdahl, both natives of Norway, who came to America unmarried, he at the age of about twenty and she when ten or eleven, in company with her parents, who settled in Wisconsin. Mr. and Mrs. Werdahl later moved to Goodhue county, where they farmed and spent the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of nine children as follow: Andria, Anna, Halvor, John, Emma, Martin, Thea, Carrie and George, all of whom are still living. Mr. Werdahl served with the Union colors during the Civil War. To Mr. and Mrs. Pederson the following children have been born: Martha, Olena, Bertha, Hannah, Peder, Alma, Inga, Alfred and Norman, all of whom are living. The Pederson family are members of the Lutheran church and are warmly interested in all its good works, as well as in all community movements calculated to advance the best interests of the township at large.

JOHN LAMB.

The late John Lamb, a substantial retired farmer of Clay county, who died at his home in Baker in the spring of 1910, and whose widow is now living in the village of Downer, where she is conducting a hotel, was a native of Scotland, but had been a resident of Minnesota since 1872, he and his wife having come to this country immediately following their marriage in that year. He was born on a farm in Forfarshire on August 18, 1848, a son of John and Elizabeth Lamb, also natives of Scotland, the former of whom died in his native land and the latter of whom later came to this country and spent her last days in the home of her son, John, in Clay county. The senior John Lamb and his wife were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the sixth in order of birth, the others being David, Charles, Ann, Margaret, James, Alexander, Mary, Jane and William. Ann Lamb married William Thompson, a biographical sketch of whom is presented elsewhere in this volume.

Reared on the home farm in Scotland, the junior John Lamb grew up there a practical farmer and continued farming there until his marriage in



JOHN LAMB AND FAMILY.

1872, when he and his bride came to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, locating in the vicinity of Audubon, in Becker county, where Mr. Lamb bought a tract of railroad land and for eight years was there engaged in farming, one of the pioneers of that neighborhood. In 1880 he disposed of his interests in Becker county and moved over into Clay county, homesteading a quarter of a section two and a half miles northwest of Downer, at the same time buying a tree-claim right to an adjoining quarter section. He planted a fine grove on his homestead tract and put up a substantial set of farm buildings on the tree-claim quarter and began to develop and improve the half section, it not being long until he had one of the best farms thereabout. His grove of twenty acres flourished and is now one of the finest groves in the county, a distinctive landmark and a living monument to the foresight of the man who planted and encouraged it. Mr. Lamb was an excellent farmer and an appreciative breeder of good stock, keeping imported draught horses. He also took an active interest in local civic affairs and for twenty-five years served as treasurer of his home township. Some time before his retirement from the farm he increased his land holdings by the purchase of an additional forty acres in Elmwood township. Early in 1908 he built a comfortable house in the village of Baker and retired from the farm, he and his wife moving to Baker, where his last days were spent, his death occurring there on March 20, 1910.

About eighteen months after the death of her husband, Mrs. Lamb sold her residence property in Baker and for three years thereafter made her home in Barnesville, her son Arthur continuing to operate the old home farm. Mrs. Lamb then built a house in Downer and has since been conducting a hotel there. She was born in Scotland, Jean Vannette, a daughter of William and Barbara (Mann) Vannette, both natives of Scotland, who came to this country in 1880 and made their home on a ten-acre plot they secured on the Lamb farm, spending there the remainder of their lives. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom Mrs. Lamb was the third in order of birth, the others being Ann, David, James, Alexander, Margaret, Elizabeth, Mary, Johan, Alice and Katie. They, as well as the Lambs, were members of the Presbyterian church and their children were reared in that faith. To Mr. and Mrs. Lamb thirteen children were born, William (deceased), Alice (deceased), Margaret, Annie, Arthur, Lillie (deceased), Elizabeth (deceased), Robert (deceased), Josie, and David and two infants, deceased. As one of the pioneers of Clay county, Mrs. Lamb has many

interesting recollections of the early days of the settlement of the country in which she and her husband became homesteaders and there are few persons thereabout who have a more accurate fund of information regarding those days than she.

TORGER HAVELSON.

Torgér Havelson, a native son of old Norway, who established himself of the fertile soil of Waukon township, Norman county, and is now the owner of one hundred and seventy acres of land, all of which is in a high state of cultivation except a ten-acre tract of timber, was born in Søndre-land, Norway, 1840, a son of Havel and Martha Havelson, who were both natives of Norway, where they spent their entire lives, the father a farmer and blacksmith there. The father and mother were the parents of six children, namely: Hans and Marin, both deceased; Christina and Helena, living; Martha, deceased, and Torgér, the youngest and the subject of this review.

Torgér Havelson received his only formal education in the public schools of Norway, but he acquired habits of industry and perseverance while helping the family in their common effort to cultivate the old farm. He was approaching the prime of his life when he decided to immigrate to America, the land of opportunity, and establish here his home among several of his friends and acquaintances who were here comfortably situated on the cheap and fertile land of the Northwest. He arrived on American soil in 1867 and he first located in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where, in order to acquire the necessary capital for setting up a farm plant, he worked as a farm hand and as a mason and plasterer, which trades he learned while he was a resident there. For nine years he remained in Winneshiek county and at the end of that period he came to Norman county, Minnesota, in 1878, where in the same year he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres, the southeast quarter of section 22, Waukon township, and here he has since made his home, improving his holding. When he took his homestead, the land was raw prairie and he had no little difficulty in bringing it under cultivation, however, he finally succeeded and is now reaping the fruits of his labors by wresting the pent-up treasures from the docile soil which was formerly stubborn prairie sod. Here he has made all improvements, which include a comfortable farm home, substantial farm buildings and a beautiful grove. Some years ago, he purchased an additional tract, ten acres of valu-

able timber land. Here on his farm he carries on a general type of diversified farming and is quite successful in his operations.

Two years after Mr. Havelson homesteaded his farm, he was married to Marie Garden in March, 1880. She was born in Norway, a daughter of Lars and Regina Garden, and to this union two children have been born, sons, Lewis and Martin, both of whom are still at home. Mr. and Mrs. Havelson are both active and influential members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, the former having helped to organize the first church society in this part of the county, the St. Peter Lutheran church of Strand township, to which they both yet belong. The co-operative business interests of the community have been the objects of a considerable part of Mr. Havelson's time and effort, for he helped to organize the creamery at Waukon and also the Waukon Mercantile Company. In politics, he is a Republican, but he has never gone in very seriously for public office. He has been deeply interested in local educational progress for many years, and has been for quite a while treasurer of the school district.

OLE L. NORBY.

Ole L. Norby, proprietor of a well-improved farm of three hundred and twenty acres in Strand township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the year 1882, having come here from his native land the year following his marriage there. He was born on March 4, 1855, son of Lars and Maria (Olson) Knutson, also natives of Norway, who spent all their lives there and who were the parents of six children, those besides the subject of this sketch being Knut, Martin, Lizzie, Gunil and Andrew, all of whom are still living in their native land, engaged there in farming, which was the vocation of their father.

In 1881 Ole L. Norby was married in Norway and in the next year he and his wife came to this country and proceeded on out to Minnesota and settled in Norman county, where they ever since have made their home and where they have prospered, being now in possession of a fine farm covering one-half section in Strand township, which has been improved until it is regarded as one of the best-kept farms in that neighborhood. Upon coming into possession of that place Mr. Norby planted trees and erected a substantial set of farm buildings and has otherwise brought the place up to the top notch of agricultural effectiveness. In addition to his general farming

he has given considerable attention to the raising of high-grade live stock and has done quite well in his operations. He also has given considerable attention to the general business affairs of the community in which he lives and is a shareholder in the local creamery company and in the telephone company at Gary.

To Mr. and Mrs. Norby nine children have been born, namely: Mary, Louis, Herman, Clara, Olga, Otilla, John, Olaf (deceased) and Ole (deceased). Clara Norby married and is now living on a farm in South Dakota. Otilla is on a farm in the vicinity of Thief River, this state, and the others are at home on the home farm. The Norbys have a very pleasant home and take a proper part in the general social activities of the community in which they live.

ANDREW J. WELLEY

Andrew J. Welley, one of the best-known and most substantial pioneer farmers of Strand township, Norman county, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of this state and of Norman county since 1882, the year after the formal organization of Norman county as a civic unit. He was born on February 15, 1850, one of the seven children born to John and Carrie (Oien) Welley, also natives of Norway, farming people, who spent all their lives in their native land.

Reared and educated in Norway, Andrew J. Welley was married there in 1874 and continued to reside there until 1882, in which year he came with his family to the United States and proceeded on out to Minnesota, homesteaded a quarter of a section of land in section 28 of Strand township, Norman county, the place on which his son Hjelmer now lives, and there established his home. Later he bought the eighty-acre tract on which he is now living, in that same township, and for a time resided on the same, but afterward moved back to his homestead tract, to which he added by purchase until he had two hundred and forty acres there. Still later, however, he returned to his "eighty" and has since made his home there, both farms being well improved and profitably cultivated.

To Mr. and Mrs. Welley fifteen children have been born, namely: Carrie (deceased), John, Laura (deceased), Ingelborg, Lewis, Edward (deceased), Elert, Ragne, Carl, Minnie, Ida, Amanda, Anna, Hjelmer and Malvin. Mrs. Welley also was born in Norway, Ellen Benson, daughter of Bent Wennevald and wife, Hjelmer Welley, who is now farming his father's old homestead

place in Strand township, was born on the farm on which his parents are now living, in that same township, in 1895, and received his schooling in the schools in districts 43 and 59. For a while he farmed in North Dakota, but for some time past has been farming the old homestead place and is doing well there. The Welleys are members of the Lutheran church and have ever taken an interested part in church work and in the general good works and social affairs of the community in which they live. Andrew J. Welley helped to build the first church erected in the community in which he settled in pioneer days, the church at Gary, and in other ways has been helpful and influential in promoting good works in the neighborhood of which he has been a part since the early days of the settlement of that part of the county.

ANDREW T. DEGERNESS.

Andrew T. Degerness, a well-known resident of Sundahl township, Norman county, where he is the owner and operator of a fine farm of two hundred acres of land and is otherwise prominently connected with the civil and business interests of the community in which he lives, was born in Norway, April 23, 1865, a son of Toris H. and Guro (Walvatne) Degerness, both natives of Norway, where they spent their whole lives, the father being a farmer. The father and mother were the parents of ten children, of whom the subject of this review was the second in order of birth, the others being: Halvor, deceased; Anna, who is now dead; Ele, Toris, Gurena, Anna, Abel, Gregoreus and Halvor.

Andrew T. Degerness was reared on the old home farm in Norway, where he received a limited education in the public schools. He also spent his boyhood and the years of his early maturity on the old farm, helping his father operate the same and incidentally gaining some valuable training which stood him in good stead when he established himself in America. About the time he reached the age of twenty-one years he decided to follow the example of many of his countrymen who had come to the New World and established comfortably here on large and productive holdings; accordingly he immigrated to America in 1886 and landed at Luverne, Rock county, Minnesota, on May 20 of that year. He soon obtained employment on a farm in the county mentioned above and remained thus engaged for two years. Knowing that excellent farming land could be obtained cheaply in Minnesota, he set out in 1888 for Norman county, that state, and when he

arrived in these parts he found employment as a farm hand in Sundahl township, where he worked for three years. In 1891 he invested his savings in one hundred and twenty acres of unimproved land in Sundahl township, section 36, to which tract he added eighty acres some two years later. This land was all bare, but Mr. Degerness, especially after he began his residence on his holding in 1892, started assiduously to improve it by erecting substantial farm buildings and a comfortable farm house. Here now he carries on general diversified farming.

On March 28, 1888, Mr. Degerness was united in marriage to Martha Thompson, born in Norway on October 10, 1866, a daughter of Peter and Martha (Vikenes) Thompson, the former of whom came to America many years before his daughter immigrated to this country. He lived in Kandiyohi county, Minnesota, and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Degerness are the parents of nine children as follow: Martha, Anna, Petra, Thea, Marie, Toris Gustav, Hannah, Norman and Alvin Martin. The parents are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Sundahl and according to this faith they have reared their children. Mr. Degerness has been and is prominently connected with the civil affairs of Sundahl township, having been township supervisor for six years and school board chairman for ten years in all. Moreover, his interests in the co-operative business enterprises of his community are well known, he having helped to organize the creamery at Sundahl and also the Sundahl Mercantile Company. In politics, Mr. Degerness is a staunch member of the Republican party.

HOGAN HOGENSON.

Hogan Hogenson is another of the natives of Norway who has come to the United States and from small beginnings has accumulated a substantial means of livelihood, now the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres in Goose Prairie township and of thirty acres of timber land in section 22, Norman county. He was born in 1864 in the kingdom of Norway, a son of Henry and Mary (Lee) Hogenson, natives of Norway, the former born in 1837 and the later in 1830, and who on arriving in this country first settled in Steele county, Minnesota.

Henry Hogenson came to this country about the year 1871 and bought eighty acres of land in Steele county, this state, which he sold some years

later and then took a homestead tract in Walnut township, Becker county, which he subsequently sold to his son, Martin. This homestead is just across the Clay county line. Henry Hogenson then bought eighty acres to live on, which he still owns. Henry and Mary (Lee) Hogenson are the parents of the following children: Hogan, the immediate subject of this sketch; Hans, married, who rents land north of Ulen and owns land in Becker county; Nels, married, rents land in Keene township; Ed, a widower, living with his father; Martin, living on the original homestead; Belle, married, living in Becker county; Barbara, married, also in Becker county; Anna, married, lives in Clay county, and Leno, deceased.

Hogan Hogenson accompanied his parents to this country when he was seven years old, in 1871, and lived with them in Steele county, this state, and there attended the public schools. Later, he assisted his father in the labors of improving and developing the home farm and at the age of thirty years, in 1894, he bought the homestead of his wife's father in section 4, Goose Prairie township, and later bought eighty acres in section 5. Mr. Hogenson is now the owner of two hundred and forty acres in Clay county and thirty acres of timber land in Norman county. He has made many valuable improvements and is now engaged in general farming and since the very commencement of his operations has met with considerable success and is accounted one of the substantial farmers in that section of Clay county.

Hogan Hogenson was united in marriage to Ellen L. Mallen, born in 1870, in Houston county, Minnesota. Her father was a farmer and owned a tract of land in Houston county. Mrs. Hogenson's parents came to Clay county in 1880, in which year her father homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, Goose Prairie township. Mr. and Mrs. Hogenson are the parents of the following children: Henry, who owns land in Montana; Mabel, who lives in North Lake Park; Olva, living in this county; Hilda, married, and living in Montana, and John, Olga, Willis, Hazel, Ina, Ralph and Laura. Mr. Hogenson gives a good citizen's attention to public affairs, and has served as supervisor of the township for the past ten years. He also served on the school board and was one of the organizers of school district No. 89, and he served as clerk of the school board for several years. He has an interest in the local creamery and in other ways has given evidence of his ability to help all proper causes in the township and county. In addition to his farming operations Mr. Hogenson is also a breeder of Shorthorn stock.

EMIL LERUD.

Emil Lerud ranks among the younger and more progressive farmers of Home Lake township, Norman county. He was born in 1888, a son of Anton and Mary (Torgerud) Lerud, natives of Norway, the former of whom is deceased and the latter is still living on a farm in Home Lake township.

Anton Lerud was educated in the schools of Norway and accompanied his parents to this country, the other children of the family being: Hans, who lives at Fargo; Mrs. Frank Peterson, living in Home Lake township; Jacob, owner of a farm, also living in the township; Mary and Carrie, twins, the former, now Mrs. Micklebust, living at Fargo, and the latter at Dilworth, a widow; Mrs. Anderson, a widow, living at Fargo; Mrs. Mathia Hanson, who died in the spring of 1917, and Thil (another Mrs. Hanson, of Fargo), died twenty years ago. Anton Lerud was twenty years old when he came to America, on arrival going on out to Lansing, Iowa, where he worked at blacksmithing for two years, which occupation he had to relinquish on account of weak eyesight. He then went to farm labor and later came to Norman county, about 1880, and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land in section 4, Home Lake township, and later bought a quarter section in Wild Rice township and still later made a further purchase of sixty acres in Home Lake township, adjoining the original farm, and carried out many valuable improvements. He died in 1905 at the age of fifty-seven years.

During his active life Anton Lerud was recognized as one of the most enterprising farmers in this part of Norman county, and in addition to his agricultural activities he found time to participate in the public affairs of the township, serving on the school board for some years. He organized the local creamery in Home Lake township, the plant being later moved to Twin Valley. At the time of his death he was the owner of three hundred and twenty acres of prime land. Anton and Mary Lerud were the parents of five children as follow: Julius, married, living in Wild Rice township; Minnie, living on the home place; Mrs. Anna Wold, in Twin Valley; Theodore, a preacher, married and living in Clifton, Texas, and Emil. Mrs. Mary Lerud, who lives on the home farm, is now aged seventy years. Anton Lerud was a member of the Synod church, of which he was trustee for a number of years.

Emil Lerud was educated in the public schools of Norman county and

has lived here all of his life. He worked on the farm for twelve years. In partnership with his mother he is the joint owner of two hundred and twenty acres of prime land, the quarter section in Wild Rice township being owned by his brother, Julius. Emil Lerud carries on general farming and stock raising, having a small herd of full-blooded and Shorthorn cattle. He has kept the farm plant in excellent condition, has carried out extensive repairs and erected a silo and machine shed, and is accounted one of the most progressive farmers in the township.

Emil Lerud was united in marriage in the fall of 1915 to Selma Haugen, born in 1888 in Rockwell township, this county, where her parents still live on a farm. Mr. and Mrs. Lerud are the parents of one child, a boy, Anton Lester, born in April, 1917.

ANTHONY SCHEIE.

Anthony Scheie, one of the first settlers of Anthony township, where he lives, a substantial farmer who owns two hundred forty acres of well-improved land in this township, Norman county, and a veteran of the Civil War, was born at Muskego, Wisconsin, September 29, 1844, the son of Andrew and Inger Scheie, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1839 or 1840. At first the elder Scheie located in Rochester, New York, where he remained for one year working at the cooper's trade, but, being a true pioneer, gradually worked his way with his family westward until he settled in Muskego, Wisconsin, in the early days when there were only twelve houses in Milwaukee. He acquired a holding of forty acres of timber land near Muskego, Wisconsin, a part of which he cleared and farmed. Later he left Wisconsin and moved over into Minnesota and settled for a short time in Fillmore county, that state. In 1876, feeling that a better opportunity awaited himself and family farther north in Minnesota, he moved to Norman county, located in Halstad township, and bought a farm where he and his wife spent the remainder of their lives. Andrew Scheie and family were devoted adherents to the Lutheran denomination, he being in his later life a minister of that creed and among the first in this section of the country. He was the guiding spirit in the organization of the Augustana Lutheran congregation in Halstad township and was numbered among its early pastors. To him and his wife were born seven children, namely: Ellen Christina, Anna, Hannah, Melvina, Caroline and John, all

of whom are dead; and Anthony, the subject of this review, and the only living child.

Anthony Scheie received a common school education in the schools of Fillmore county, Minnesota, where he had come with his parents after their removal from Muskego, Wisconsin. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Scheie heard the call for troops to maintain the integrity of the country, and enlisted in Houston county, Minnesota, at the town of Caledonia, in Company D, Sixteenth Missouri Volunteer Infantry. Before he entered active service, he was transferred to Company K, Forty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which unit he served four years. After the surrender of Lee at Appomatox on April 9, 1865, Mr. Scheie remained in service for six months longer in the South, gathering the war equipment of the Confederates. When he was mustered out in 1866, he returned to Fillmore county and farmed until 1872. In that year, with five or six companions and their families, he drove northward in covered wagons drawn by ox and horse teams to Norman county. There Mr. Scheie immediately took a soldier's homestead of one hundred sixty acres in section 18, Anthony township and proved it up. He has since his coming been a resident of this part of the county, and is now the owner of two hundred eighty acres of good land, including his homestead, on which he carries on general farming. His home is in section 19, where he has lived many years.

In 1870, before his coming to Norman county, Mr. Scheie married Betsie Larson, who was born in Sweden, the daughter of Lars Larson and wife, both natives of Sweden. To this union have been born five children, all of whom are living: Ellen, Delbert, Josephine, Ada and Selma.

When Mr. Scheie came to what is now Anthony township, the land was the unsettled, raw prairie, and he and his family lived here five years before any other white men came. He had many nomadic neighbors, however, for sometimes as many as one hundred fifty Indians would camp nearby on the Marsh river. Soon other settlers came and when the population had reached the requisite number, the township was organized and took its name from Mr. Scheie's Christian name. In addition to his very successful farming operations on his fine farm, which he has improved by erecting adequate buildings and planting groves, Mr. Scheie entered into the public service of the community to some extent. He has served as township assessor, and was township supervisor and county commissioner from 1873 to 1876, and in other ways he has given his time and ability to forward the common good of the community.

ANDREW ANDERSON.

One of the pioneer farmers and sterling citizens who has helped turn the wilderness of this part of Norman county into a fine farming section is Andrew Anderson, who was born on August 12, 1854, in faraway Norway, the son of Andrew and Martha (Olson) Monson, both of whom were natives also of Norway, where the father lived all of his life. After his death, the mother, with her son, Ole, and daughters, came to America in 1878, to join her other son, Andrew, the subject of this review, who had come to this country some years previously. The family located on a farm in McDonalds-ville township, Norman county, where the mother died. Of the seven children born to his parents, Andrew is the only one now living, the others being as follow: Ole, who died in Norman county in 1902; Inga, who died in Norway; two infant sons, who also died in Norway, and Anna and Agatha, who both died in Norman county.

Andrew Anderson received his education in the schools of Norway, and in 1873 decided to come to America, the land of opportunities. After coming here he located first in Iowa county, Wisconsin, where he lived for four years, working as a farm laborer, grubbing and chopping cordwood. In 1877 he came to Norman county, and on October 14, of that year, he filed on a homestead located in the southeast quarter of section 10, Lake Ida township. His land at that time was all wild and unimproved; not even the township was organized, but he set to work with a will and improved and cultivated his land, erecting good and substantial buildings, and planting trees. He gradually increased his land holdings, purchasing one hundred and sixty acres in section 11, of the same township, and later sixty acres more in the same township in section 15. He engaged in general farming and stock raising, and was very successful in his work. In 1909 he retired from active farming, after erecting good buildings on his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and since that time has lived on the smaller place.

In 1876 Mr. Anderson was married to Anna Erickson, while he was living in Wisconsin. Mrs. Anderson is a daughter of Erick Erickson, and was born in Norway. Both Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are earnest and faithful members of the Lutheran church, and helped to organize the church of that denomination in West Wild Rice township, in which they take an active and interested part.

Mr. Anderson ranks among the substantial and enterprising citizens of his community, and has always been prominent and active in the civic

affairs of his neighborhood. He helped organize Lake Ida township, and served as treasurer of the township two or three years, and has been a member of the school board of the township many terms, serving both as treasurer and school director. Besides farming, Mr. Anderson is a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator at Ada.

ERIC H. FLOM.

One of the progressive and enterprising farmers of Norman county is Eric H. Flom, the owner of a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Flom township, where he carries on general farming and dairying and who was one of the organizers of Norman county, was born in this county, June 4, 1860, a son of Hans and Margretta (Regsland) Flom, both natives of Norway, from which they came to America after their marriage. Soon after they arrived on American soil, the father and mother came on out to Minnesota, and took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in section 14, Flom township, about a mile and a half from the farm on which the subject of this sketch now lives. Both spent their lives on the home farm, which was sold after their deaths occurred. They were the parents of four children, namely: Martha, now residing in Dakota; Elling, living in section 20, Flom township; Eric H., the subject of this sketch, and Seamen, deceased.

Eric H. Flom received his early education in the schools of Norman county, although the educational advantages of his school days were nothing to compare with those that the children of the present enjoy, because the country was then new. Living under pioneer conditions on his father's farm, he there gained the hardihood, thrift and industry which were invaluable to him when he started for himself a short distance from the home place. For the first twelve years of his farming operations, he used oxen, and now he uses horses as draught animals. He has now one hundred and sixty acres of excellent land, all well improved with a good farm plant and under a high state of cultivation. The plant consists of excellent buildings, including a large barn and silo, which are absolutely indispensable to the progressive and enterprising farmer. His comfortable farm house is beautifully situated in a fine grove. Here on his farm he carries on mixed farming and has some stock.

Mr. Flom was united in marriage to Anna Nelson, who was born in

Norway, and this marriage has resulted in the birth of the following children: Harry, Nora, Henry, Clarence and Ella. Mr. and Mrs. Flom are consistent and conscientious members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, the former helping to erect the church edifice which has since burned down. He has a share in the creamery at Flom, which enterprise is of great importance to him in the marketing of his dairy products.

Mr. Flom has always taken a deep interest in the social, civic and moral progress of the community in which he has always lived. He helped to organize Norman county, and whenever any movement is started locally for the community's betterment, it is assured of Mr. Flom's unstinted support and loyal co-operation.

PATRICK H. LAMB.

Economic conditions in the Emerald Isle in past years were among the most potent causes which influenced the vast tide of immigration from that country to the United States, the people flocking in thousands in and about the year that saw Owen and Elizabeth Lamb land on the hospitable shores of this country, bringing with them their infant son, Patrick H. Lamb, the subject of this sketch.

Patrick H. Lamb was born in Ireland in 1848, known in that country as the famine year; he is a son of Owen and Elizabeth Lamb, natives also of Ireland, and who immigrated to this country in 1850, locating in New England, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Patrick H. Lamb was educated in the public schools of New England, in the state of Connecticut, and continued to reside there for some years. In 1872 he moved to Moorhead and in that year and the one following he worked a team, hauling freight between Moorhead and Winnipeg, Canada. During the succeeding twenty years he acted as manager of a brick factory, he holding a partnership in the firm of Lamb Brothers.

Mr. Lamb became interested in land and at the present time his attention is devoted to agricultural pursuits. In 1895, the year after the Moorhead National Bank was organized, he was elected president of that institution and has since been the active head of the bank, its success being in no small measure due to his business capacity and foresightedness. In addition to his land and bank interests Mr. Lamb has organized and is president of the following undertakings: The National Loan and Improvement Company

of Moorhead, the Clay County Building Association at Moorhead, and the Dilworth State Bank, and in these institutions he takes a warm interest, bringing a ripe intelligence and sound business principles to bear on their operation.

In 1883 Patrick H. Lamb was united in marriage to Catherine Herrick. Mr. and Mrs. Lamb take a warm interest in the general social activities of their home city, assisting in all efforts calculated to serve the people at large. Mr. Lamb is a member of the Catholic church and is affiliated with the Knights of Columbus, in which latter organization he has shown a deep interest. He was one of the original trustees of the village of Moorhead, and has served the city in all for seventeen years, for three terms being the occupant of the office of mayor. He is now the senior member of the board of education, having served on that body for twelve years, and during his long residence in Moorhead no worthy public purpose has missed his support.

WILLIAM PAGEL.

William Pagel, the proprietor of one hundred and sixty acres of well-improved land in Green Meadow township, Norman county, where he is a well-known participant in the religious and general civil affairs of the community in which he lives, was born in Germany, November 20, 1868, a son of John and Katie (Langhaus) Pagel, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they grew up and married. About five years after the birth of their eldest child, the subject of this review, they decided to come to the New World, and after they landed on American soil in 1873, they immediately came on out to Red Wing, Minnesota, where they located. After about a five-year residence at this place, they came on up into Norman county, where they homesteaded a quarter section, on which farm their son Henry now lives in Green Meadow township. There the parents settled permanently and following the death of the father after many years of fruitful endeavor in the development and cultivation of his holding, the widowed mother continues to make her home on the old place. They were the parents of two children: William, the subject of this review, and Henry, who lives on the old homestead in Green Meadow township.

William Pagel was only five years of age when he crossed the Atlantic with his parents on their journey to the New World and was only a mere boy of ten years when he settled with them in Norman county. Since the

common school system of the state at that time was not well established, elementary education advantages were almost nil, hence his early education was limited. Nevertheless, the valuable training he received when he helped in the cultivation and development of the family's holding stood him in good stead when he struck out for himself in his own farming operations. He began farming on his own account when he purchased a quarter section of land which joins the old homestead on the south and he has lived there since 1888. His land is all well improved and he has perfected his admirable farm plant by the erection of large, substantial buildings, which includes a comfortable farm home, and he now carries on a general type of scientific diversified agriculture.

In 1897 Mr. Pagel married Beryha Volz, who was born at Red Wing, Minnesota, a daughter of Albert Volz and wife, and to this union eleven children have been born, all of whom are now living: Anna, Emil, Minnie, Johnnie, Walter, Lilie, Clarence, Bennie, Elizabeth, George and Ida. Mr. and Mrs. Pagel are members of the Lutheran church, according to the creed of which denomination they are rearing their children. He and she are very active in local church affairs, the former helping to form the first church society in the community, St. John's Lutheran church. For nine years Mr. Pagel served the township as supervisor, with complete satisfaction to his neighbors.

Henry Pagel, the brother of William Pagel and who is now operating the old homestead, where he and his mother live together, was born in Germany, July 12, 1871. He was only two years of age when his parents brought him to America and had just reached the age of eight when he came with them up into Norman county from Red Wing, Minnesota. He has continued to live on the old home place here and after the death of his father he took over completely the operation of the same, enjoying the greatest success in his undertakings. As the original buildings on the old place became inadequate, as it grew into a better cultivated tract, he replaced the same with a set of large, substantial and capacious buildings. As does his brother, he carries on general diversified farming. Mr. Pagel takes a good citizen's interest in the local civic affairs of the community in which he lives, and whenever any movement is started which has for its purpose the social or material betterment of his neighbors, it is assured his heartiest support and co-operation. Mr. Pagel has never married and he and his mother live together on the old home place. He is a consistent member of St. John's Lutheran church, which his father, his brother and he helped to organize.

OLE I. ELLINGSON.

Ole I. Ellingson, a well-known and substantial farmer, owner of a compact and well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native of the state of Iowa, but has been a resident of this county for the past thirty-four years. He was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, June 24, 1856, a son of Iver and (Inga) Orve Ellingson, both of whom were natives of Norway.

Iver Ellingson was educated in the schools of Norway and came to this country about 1844, being then twenty-one years of age, going first to Chicago, Illinois. His wife, Inga Orve, at the age of thirteen came with her parents to America, going to Illinois and settling in Boone county, that state. Following the marriage of Iver Ellingson and Inga Orve, they moved to Winneshiek county, Iowa, and there he farmed for the remainder of his active life and in that place his death took place. His widow survived him for some time and later died in South Dakota. They were the parents of the following children: John (deceased), Ed, Ole I., Andrew, Theodore, Anna (deceased), Lena, Betsie (deceased), Lucy and Ada. The maternal grandparents of these children, Ole and Bertha Ovri, were farmers in Boone county, Illinois, where they died.

Ole I. Ellingson was educated in the schools of Iowa and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the labors of improving and developing the same until 1883. In the latter year he came to Norman county, driving from Jackson, Minnesota, where he had been engaged in railroad work, grading with a team. He drove the journey to this county with a span of mules. He and two friends made the trip, but later he lost sight of them. Mr. Ellingson joined his brother, Ed, who had acquired a homestead in Sundahl township and who had come there the previous year, and here Ole I. took a homestead claim of one hundred and sixty acres in 1883. He lived on this place, improving and developing it, for about twelve years, at the end of which time he traded it for one hundred and sixty acres in Bear Park township, where he has since lived and where he has been engaged in general farming and the raising of graded Shorthorn cattle, and has been doing very well. Mr. Ellingson carried out some excellent improvements on his holding and erected substantial buildings.

In 1889 Ole I. Ellingson was united in marriage to Josephina Malquist, born in Freeborn county, Minnesota, a daughter of John Malquist and wife, and to this union the following children have been born: John Ira, Rudolph

Elbey and Olive Josephine, all of whom are living. For many years Mr. Ellingson has been giving attention to local civic affairs and has been serving on the township board for two years and is still serving. For many years he has been interested in the cause of education and has served on the school board of Bear Park township. He helped to organize the Rindahl Mercantile Company and is interested in the Rindahl Creamery.

MARTIN O. ANDERSON.

The late Martin O. Anderson, one of the pioneers of Sundahl township, Norman county, who died at his home in that township in the summer of 1917 and whose widow and family are still living there, was a native of the kingdom of Norway, but had been a resident of Minnesota since he was ten years of age and of Norman county since the early eighties, when he came up here into the Red River country with his parents and settled on a homestead farm, where he spent the remainder of his life, one of the useful and influential pioneers of that section. He was born on November 8, 1860, son of Ole and Ingre (Olson) Anderson, both also natives of Norway, who came to the United States in 1870 and settled in Sibley county, Minnesota, where they made their home for about ten years, at the end of which time they moved with their family up into this part of the state, driving through by ox-team, and settled on a homestead tract of one hundred and sixty acres in section 28 of what later came to be organized as Sundahl township, Norman county. Ole Anderson died on that homestead farm about a year later and the task of proving up the claim fell upon his only son, the subject of this memorial sketch, who established the claim and on that place spent the rest of his life. Ole Anderson's widow spent the balance of her days in that same neighborhood and lived to a ripe old age. She and her husband had two children, the son, Martin O., and a daughter, Annette, wife of Lars V. Larson.

Martin O. Anderson was about ten years of age when his parents came to Minnesota and he finished his schooling in the schools of Sibley county. From the days of his boyhood he was a valued assistant to his father in the labors of the farm there and upon coming up here into the Red River country entered heartily into the task of helping to develop a homestead farm. Upon the death of his father a year later he took hold of the place and in

due time "proved up" the homestead claim and after his marriage established his home there. In time he erected new and substantial buildings on the place and had a fine farm plant, continuing to manage the same until his death on July 3, 1917, since which time the place has been operated by his son, Ole A. Anderson, who in the spring of 1916 had bought an adjoining "eighty" and is now carrying on his farming operations on both tracts. Martin O. Anderson was ever active in good works, helped to organize the first church in his community, the Sundahl Lutheran church, and in other ways did what he could to promote the best interests of the neighborhood of which he had been a part since pioneer days.

Martin O. Anderson was the father of nine children, who are still living, namely: Inga, Ole A., Minnie, Hjelmer, Olga, Clara, Agnes, Mary and Elizabeth. Since the death of her husband Mrs. Anderson continues to make her home on the home place and she and her children are very comfortably situated there, having a pleasant home and a fine bit of farm property.

ANDREW O. NESS.

A retired farmer of Norman county, who now makes his home in Moorhead, Clay county, and is now spending his later years in well-earned retirement after his great activity in developing his farm from a scope of virgin prairie wilderness into a garden spot, is Andrew O. Ness, who was born in Norway, April 21, 1855, a son of Ole and Bertha Peterson, both of whom were natives of Norway, but spent the later years of their lives in America. The former was born in 1818 and died in Gardner, North Dakota, in 1895, and the mother's death occurred at the same place where the father died after she had reached the age of ninety-three years. They were the parents of five children, as follow: Peter, married and living at Fargo, North Dakota, owning a Ford automobile agency; Alice, who is married and living in Minnesota; Malena, also married; Jensinger, still living in Norway, and Andrew, the subject of this review.

Andrew O. Ness spent his boyhood and youth in the land of his nativity, where he received the common-school training which the time and the place afforded, but when he reached the age of twenty-one years, he decided to leave Norway and come to America, where he could have a better chance to establish himself comfortably on some of the cheap, fertile land which was being opened up in the Northwest. In 1876 he landed on American

soil alone with no money, in a strange country, the language of which he did not know, but with a stout heart strong in the determination to "make good". Soon after he landed in America, he made his way out to Goodhue county, this state, where he found employment as a hand on the neighboring farms. He remained thus engaged for three years, at the end of which time he went northward to Clay county, obtaining work in the city of Moorhead. After he had been in Moorhead four months, he went to Cass county, North Dakota, where he remained until 1881. In the meantime, he had obtained a pre-emption right, which he had sold, but in the year mentioned before, he returned to Minnesota and bought one hundred and twenty acres of land in section 14, Lee township, Norman county. As the land was new, he had to make all the improvements, erecting buildings and a farm house and planting some groves; however, there were some natural clumps of trees on the place. After he had been established for some time, he made an acquisition to his holdings by the purchase of eighty acres in section 22, Lee township. After a while, since prosperity continued to smile upon his operations, he purchased another tract of the same size in the same section, and township. At the present time, 1917, he is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres, on which general farming and stock raising are carried on. The farm plant is entirely up-to-date, consisting of modern and well-equipped farm buildings and comfortable farm home, all of which are kept in an excellent state of repair. To compare his farm now with what it was thirty-six years ago, a striking contrast is seen. For the first five years of his residence on his holding, he used two yokes of oxen, and now in their place are excellent farm horses. This contrast among others is typical of the progress that has been made in this section of the country in the last thirty years.

It is now in the calm retrospect of retirement that Mr. Ness reviews his achievements in the development of his agricultural interests while he was in active life. On March 20, 1917, he purchased a comfortable home in Moorhead, where he can spend the evening of his life out of the turmoil of the work-a-day world and calmly review the events of the past, in which time he has seen this county rise, as if by magic, from the breast of the fertile prairie, which fifty years ago was a vast, blank wilderness. For five years prior to his purchase of property in Moorhead, he had not been actively engaged in farming, but had given the operation of the home place entirely into the hands of his son, Berne.

Mr. Ness married Annie Asucksen, who was born in Norway, Septem-

ber 30, 1857, whose father died in the old country. When Mrs. Ness was twenty-four years of age, she immigrated to America alone, and in the following year, she was joined by her mother, who now resides in Canada with her daughter, Mary, a sister of Mrs. Ness. Mr. Ness and wife are the parents of four children, as follow: Oscar, who is a resident of Moorhead; Ingeman, married and living at Perley, Norman county; Berne, married and operating the home place, and Ella, who works in Fargo. The father and mother are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, and they take a deep interest in the church work of the congregation.

MARTIN O. GARDEN.

Martin O. Garden, a prominent merchant and organizer of enterprises of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he is otherwise connected with the civil and social affairs of the community and where he formerly carried on rather extensive farming operations, was born in Bear Park township, Norman county, April 10, 1884, a son of Ole L. and Marie (Dahl) Garden, of whom further and fitting mention is made elsewhere in this volume.

Martin O. Garden was reared on his father's farm in Bear Park township, where he received a valuable training in the practical business of life as he contributed his assistance to the common effort of the family in the development and cultivation of the home place. Here in the district schools of the township he received his early formal education, which training he supplemented in the schools at Climax, Minnesota, where he could get better advantages. Feeling that his career lay in the business world, he entered the business college at Crookston, Minnesota, from which he graduated. As soon as he finished this training, he returned to his father's farm, awaiting his opportunity to enter the business world. After he had remained at home for about three years, he began farming on his own account in Bear Park township, where he owned eighty acres of land and farmed an additional two hundred. His opportunity came in 1914, when he became manager of the Waukon Mercantile Company, which he had helped to organize some years before. Mr. Garden is also interested in and helped to organize the Sundahl and Bear Park mercantile companies. In all of his enterprises, he has exhibited a shrewd business sense which takes cognizance of the rights of the stockholders and the satisfaction and comfort of his patrons.

In 1909, Mr. Garden was married to Emma Berg, who was born in Waukon township, Norman county, a daughter of A. K. Berg and wife, and to this union two children have been born, daughters, Violet and Ethel, both of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Garden are prominent members of the St. Peter Lutheran church and in this faith they are rearing their children. Not only do they take a very active part in local social affairs, they are also prominent participants in any movement which has for its object the moral, material and social betterment of the community in which they live. Mr. Garden was township chairman of Bear Park township for three years in addition to holding other local offices of trust.

GILBERT PEDERSON.

Another of the native-born Norwegians who has settled in Clay county and has proved himself to be an expert farmer, now the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of choice land in Bear Park township, is Gilbert Pederson, who was born in the kingdom of Norway on May 20, 1850, a son of Peter and Martha (Johnsdatter) Larson. His parents also were born in Norway and in that country spent all their lives, and there Peter Larson followed the trade of a carpenter. They were the parents of three children, namely, Jennie, Eliza and Gilbert.

Gilbert Pederson was reared in his father's home in Norway and had but a few days schooling in that country, but since coming to America he became self-taught in the English language. At the age of eighteen, in 1878, he came to the United States, proceeding on arrival to Goodhue county, this state, and there worked at any kind of labor offering. In 1881 he moved to Norman county and in that year he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres of land, on which he has since lived. The holding was largely in timber, and he proceeded to the task of clearing and breaking the ground and presently had it under crops, doing very well from the very beginning. As Mr. Pederson prospered in his farming operations he added to his land holding and is now the owner of four hundred and twenty acres of excellent land, and in addition he keeps a high grade of Holstein cattle, and is accounted one of the foremost farmers in that part of the township. In 1917 he erected a fine dairy barn, thirty-six by ninety feet.

On January 28, 1882, Gilbert Pederson was united in marriage to Oline Boreren, a native of Norway, a daughter of Ole Boreren and wife, also

natives of that country. To this union the following children have been born: Christina, who grew to maturity and is now deceased; Peter, Bent, Martinus, Ole and Mary, and two others who died young. Mr. Pederson always has taken a good citizen's interest in the welfare of the community and was one of the organizers of the first church at Rindahl. He also assisted in promoting the organization of Bear Park township, and the first township meeting was held in his homestead shanty, the township being organized at that meeting. Mr. Pederson has in many other ways during his residence of thirty-six years in Norman county, giving evidence of his practical interest in community affairs.

SEVER CHRISTIANSON.

Sever Christianson, a well-known and well-to-do farmer, living in Bear Park township, Norman county, is a native son of Minnesota, born on his father's farm in Nicollet county, July 4, 1873, a son of Gunder and Elena (Evensrud) Gunderson, both natives of Norway.

Gunder Gunderson was educated in the schools of his native land and in 1866 he and the members of his family immigrated to the United States. Following his arrival in this country he proceeded immediately to Nicollet county, this state, and there he acquired a tract of forty acres of land, which he continued to operate for about seventeen years. In 1883 he moved to Norman county and about two years later he homesteaded the quarter section of land on which Sever Christianson now lives in Bear Park township, and here he engaged in general farming for the remainder of his life. He died on the homestead farm and his widow is still living with her son, the subject of this sketch, on the home place. Gunder Gunderson and wife were the parents of the following children: Tilla, Mollie, Gust, Jennie, Thea, Polly, Sever, Minnie (deceased), Josie, and William (deceased). Gunder Gunderson helped to organize the Norman Lutheran church, shortly after settling in the county, and also assisted in promoting the Bear Park Mercantile Company, and in other ways gave of his time to the advancement of the community welfare.

Sever Christianson was educated in the schools of Nicollet county and was reared on his father's farm, where he assisted in the work of improving and developing the home place. In 1883 he came with his parents to this county in an ox-drawn covered wagon, the trip to Norman county occupy-

ing three weeks. For the first hundred miles of the journey the family was alone, but later fell in with others on the same mission bent. Mr. Christianson has continued to reside on the homestead farm acquired by his father and is engaged in general farming and has been doing very well, being accounted one of the substantial farmers in his part of the township.

On June 18, 1907, Sever Christianson was united in marriage to Hansena Amundson, born in Norway, a daughter of Amund Amundson and wife, also natives of that country. To this union the following children have been born: Theresa, Selmer, Henry, Alvin and Alphina, all of whom are living. The family are members of the Norman Hauges Lutheran church, which Mr. Christianson's father helped to organize. Mr. Christianson is interested in the Bear Park Mercantile Company and takes a good citizen's interest in the civic welfare of his home community.

SVERRE J. LEE.

One of the well-known men of Norman county is Sverre J. Lee, a farmer of Bear Park township, former member of the state Legislature, a pioneer in the co-operative business enterprises of the township, member of the board of county commissioners and otherwise prominently connected with the educational and religious interests of the community. He was born in Norway, June 12, 1859, a son of Sivert and Thomine (Lee) Lee, both of whom were natives of Norway, came to America in 1867 and located first at Rushford, Fillmore county, this state, where they remained until 1882. In that year they came northward to Norman county and here made their home with their son, the subject of this sketch. The mother died in 1915 and the father is still living here at the advanced age of ninety-one years. They had five children, namely: Caroline, still a resident of Rushford, Fillmore county, who married Olaf Lee and is a widow; Baardine, whose death occurred in Norway when a child; Ingeborg Anna, who died in Norway in her childhood; Sverre J., the subject of this review, and Marie, living in Bear Park township, the widow of Albert Gartland.

Sverre J. Lee was only a child when he first set foot on American soil and he grew to manhood at Rushford, Minnesota, where he received a common-school education. In the spring of 1882, when he was twenty-three years of age, he drove through to Norman county with a party of settlers which included Peter Martinson, a blacksmith, who started a shop at Strand.

this county. Soon after he arrived at his journey's end, Mr. Lee homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Bear Park township, and he has lived here ever since. As the years passed and he prospered in his farming operations, he has been enabled to add to his holdings until he now is the owner of two hundred and eighty acres of fine land, well-improved with excellent, convenient and capacious farm buildings. He now carries on general farming.

In 1882, Mr. Lee married Marie Heglie, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Michael O. and Augusta (Hegansson) Heglie, of whom further and fitting mention is made elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are the parents of twelve children, as follow: Selmer, Tilda, Maggie, Julia, Sidney, whose death occurred in the autumn of 1915; Willie, Alice, Ida, Norman, Henry, Alfred and Agnes. Mr. and Mrs. Lee are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church and they are active in all church work.

Mr. Lee has been very active in the political, civil and business affairs of his community. In Bear Park township he has served as treasurer, township supervisor, justice of the peace, township clerk and township assessor. He has ever considered the educational progress of the community of highest importance, and he and Ole Garden circulated a petition among the residents of the community and presented it to the proper authorities for the purpose of organizing this school district, and after the organization was effected, he was a member of the first board. He has served in the same capacity at different times since and for the last fourteen years he has been a member of the board continuously, rendering valuable service to the educational interests of the community as his long incumbency indicates. During the sessions of the state Legislature of 1895 and 1897 he represented his district, being elected to this office by the Populist party. He is now serving his third consecutive term as a member of the board of county commissioners. Throughout his many years of public service, Mr. Lee has discharged his duties with strict fidelity to the interests of his constituents and with rigid adherence to the principles of right and honor. Being a far-sighted and progressive man, Mr. Lee early recognized the importance of establishing co-operative distributing and marketing agencies in the community. He was one of the organizers of the original creamery at Rindahl and is a director of the present one. He was one of the leading spirits in the organization of the Bear Park Mercantile Company and for the first fourteen years of its existence, he was manager.

OLE H. HANSON.

The name of the late Ole H. Hanson, for years a well-known and prosperous farmer, living in Bear Park township for nearly thirty years and who died in 1914, will be held in grateful remembrance for a long time to come, because Mr. Hanson was one of the pioneer farmers of Norman county, who braved the dangers and risks of settling in a new country. He and his wife, Carrie Brown, were natives of the state of Wisconsin and moved in an early day to Freeborn county, Minnesota, with their respective parents, who took homesteads in that county, these parents being natives of the kingdom of Norway, where they were farming people.

About 1881 Ole H. Hanson, in company with his brother Charles, drove to Norman county, which was then being opened up to settlement, and each of the brothers took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres in Sundahl township. They then returned to Freeborn county and in the following year moved up to Sundahl township, bringing their families with them, the trip being made by wagon. On this homestead Ole Hanson lived about five years, during which time he acquired a tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining the homestead, and on which he proved up, later selling the tree claim and the homestead. The trees he set out on the tree claim are standing on the ground to this day.

About 1886 Ole H. Hanson bought one hundred and twenty acres of choice land, which was all in timber, in Bear Park township. He immediately proceeded to put the place into a state of cultivation and put up several good buildings, and as he prospered in his agricultural operations he added to his land holdings, finally becoming the owner of two hundred and fifty-two acres on the original place and twenty acres further north in section 7, Bear Park township. After a residence of nearly thirty years in this township Mr. Hanson's strenuous labors on the farm came to a termination, the "grim reaper" calling him from all earthly scenes in 1914. He had during his long residence in the county enjoyed the friendship and good will of the community, being generally recognized as a good citizen whose worth was felt on all sides. Before coming to Norman county Ole H. Hanson had married Carrie Brown and to that union the following children were born: Lena, Ella, Minnie, Henry, Ida, Cora and Helmer, all of whom are living. In addition to his farming operations, Ole Hanson gave a good citizen's attention to civic affairs and served on the township board and in the early days was a justice of the peace. He assisted in the work

of organizing two churches in Sundahl township and also helped to organize the creamery at Sundahl.

Since the death of her husband Mrs. Hanson has been living on the farm, her sons Henry and Helmer renting the place from her. The sons carry on the work with the same spirit of enterprise that characterized their father's work. In addition to cultivation of crops they also breed a fine strain of Shorthorn cattle. The wagon which brought the family to the county is still in use on the farm, being prized as a kind of family heirloom, though of antiquated pattern.

G. C. LUCHAN.

G. C. Luchan, a prosperous farmer of Green Meadow township, Norman county, where he owns a fine farm of two hundred eighty acres, a part of which is the old homestead, was born in Goodhue county, Minnesota, March 17, 1869, a son of J. P. and Jessie (Augustine) Luchan, both of whom were natives of Germany, where they were reared and married. Along in the early fifties they decided to come to America, and after they had landed here about that time, they located in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where the subject of this review was born. The family resided here until 1882, but two years previous the father came northward to Norman county, where he took a tree claim, near where the son, G. C., now lives, in Green Meadow township. Two years later his family followed him to Norman county. However, the father did not prove up his claim and he and his wife made their home with their son Henry on the place where G. C. Luchan now lives, and here he and his wife died.

G. C. Luchan spent his boyhood in Goodhue county, where he received a part of his common school education and after the family's removal to Norman county he continued his formal education for a while longer. He has always made his home on the place where he now lives since he came to this county with his mother in 1882, contributing a goodly share of the thrift and industry to the development and cultivation of the farm. After the death of his parents, he purchased the farm from the estate and he has added to his holdings until he now is the proprietor of two hundred eighty acres of well-improved land on which he carries on general farming. Some years ago, he decided that the original buildings were inadequate for the

then bountiful production of his holding, hence he replaced them with entirely new buildings, all of which comprise an excellent farm plant.

In 1898, Mr. Luchan was united in marriage with Hattie Duemke, who was born in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Luchan are the parents of four children, namely: Raymond, Alice, Gladys and Wallace, all of whom are living. The parents are well-known members of the Congregational church and in the affairs of this denomination they have always evinced a conscientious and consistent interest. Mr. Luchan has always evinced a strong interest in the civic affairs of the locality in which he lives, and has served the people of Green Meadow township as supervisor and is now a member of the township board. Not only is Mr. Luchan interested in the civic betterment of the community in his official position, but when any movement is inaugurated for any kind of civic or social improvement, it is assured of his unstinted support.

ANDREW HAMRE.

Andrew Hamre, one of the younger, progressive and energetic farmers of Spring Creek township, owner of a well-kept farm of one hundred and sixty acres, is a native of the state of Minnesota, born in Goodhue county, September 9, 1879, a son of Albert J. and Susie (Enerson) Hamre, both born in Norway and who came in later life to America.

Albert J. Hamre located first in Goodhue county, this state, and from there enlisted in the Union army and served during the Civil War for four years, at the end of which service he returned to Goodhue county and worked on farms for some years. In 1880 he came north, traveling by team and bringing a bunch of horses with him, which he sold in the vicinity of Ulen, Clay county. He homesteaded a quarter section of land in Garfield township, Polk county, about two and one-half miles east of Fertile. Later, he bought and moved onto another place, also in Polk county, and here he spent the remainder of his active life engaged in farming, his death taking place in 1916 and that of his wife in 1915. Mr. Hamre and his wife were earnest members of the Lutheran church, which he helped to organize at Fertile. He devoted a good portion of his time and attention to local affairs of a public character and served on the board of Garfield township for many years. He was one of the earliest to buy wheat at Fertile for the P. V. Elevator Company, the first elevator at Fertile. Later, he helped to organize the Farmers Elevator and the creamery at Fertile, and was always active in

community affairs, his death in 1916 being regarded as a distinct loss throughout the township. Albert J. Hamre and wife were the parents of six children as follow: Carrie, deceased; Ed; John; Mary, deceased; Andrew, deceased, and Andrew, the subject of this sketch.

Andrew Hamre was educated in the public schools of Fertile, Norman county, and was reared on his father's place where he assisted in the labors of the farm. When he started for himself he began farming in Liberty township, Polk county, later moving to Spring Creek township in 1911 and has since lived in that place, where he has a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres of choice land, on which he carries on general farming, from the commencement of his operations having done very well.

On August 1, 1909, Andrew Hamre was united in marriage to Martha Knutson, born in Norway, a daughter of Knut Knutson and wife, and to this union six children have been born as follow: Signe, Arthur, Clifford, Bertha, Bennie and Mabel, all of whom are living. Mr. Hamre and the members of his family are affiliated with the Lutheran church at Fertile and earnestly interested in all its good works.

PETER HASSEL.

Peter Hassel, one of the best-known and most substantial farmers of Bear Lake township, Norman county, is one of the real pioneers and old settlers of that county, having been a resident of this part of the Red River valley since the spring of 1872. He was a homesteader in Lake Ida township, which township he helped to organize, and was a resident there for seven or eight years before he bought his present place in Bear Lake township. Consequently he has been a witness to and a participant in the development of Norman county since the very beginning of organized settlement there, having been a continuous resident of this region from the time of his settlement nine years before Norman county was formally organized as a civic unit among the counties of the state. He helped to organize the first school district within the confines of what is now Lake Ida township and donated for school purposes a corner of his homestead tract there, the lot on which the school house in that district still stands. When later he moved to Bear Park township he also helped to organize his school district there and has ever been a warm friend of schools and all movements designed to advance the common good hereabout.

Mr. Hassel may literally be regarded as a child of the waves, for he was born on board the ship which was bearing his parents from their home in Sweden to the shores of America, in October of the year 1853. His parents were Peter and Margaret Hassel, both of whom were born in Sweden and who left their native land in 1853 and sailed for the United States with the determination to make their home in this country. Upon their arrival here they located in the city of Chicago and there they remained for three years, at the end of which time they came to Minnesota and settled in Chisago county, later moving to Isanti county, where the elder Peter Hassel entered a homestead claim to a quarter of a section of land in the vicinity of Cambridge and established his home. He was living there when the Civil War broke out and in the closing year of that struggle enlisted in behalf of the cause of the Union and in June of that year went to the front to help fight the battles of his adopted country. Not long afterward he was taken ill and his death occurred before Christmas of that year, he then being still in the service of the Union. His widow some time later married John Mattson and with him, in the spring of 1872, came over into the valley of the Red river to help establish a home in what then was regarded as new country, there having then been very little white settlement effected here. The Mattsons pre-empted a claim to a tract of land in what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township, Norman county, and there established their home. On that original tract their son, John Ludbeck, is now making his home. By her marriage to Peter Hassel Mrs. Mattson was the mother of seven children, only two of whom grew to maturity, the subject of this sketch and his sister Lizzie, who married Martin Everson and died about twenty years ago.

When his mother and his stepfather came over into the Red River country in 1872 the younger Peter Hassel was but eighteen years of age. He at once entered into the spirit of pioneering and was a valuable aid in the labors of developing and improving the tract on which the family had settled in the wilds of what later came to be organized as Lake Ida township. In 1875 he entered a homestead claim to a quarter of a section of land in section 24 of Lake Ida township and lived on the same for seven or eight years. Ninety acres of that tract were under cultivation when he sold it. He then bought a quarter of a section of railroad land in Bear Park township, moved his family onto the same, he having meantime married, and has ever since made this latter place his home, one of the real pioneers of that section of the county. Mr. Hassel cleared and broke

his land and gradually created there a fine farm plant, his place being now well improved and profitably cultivated and his family very comfortably situated.

In 1881 Peter Hassel was united in marriage to Carrie Ellingson, who was born in Norway, daughter of Knut Ellingson, and to this union have been born five children, Albert, Edwin, Carl, Edion and Mabel, all of whom are living save Carl, who died in his youth. The Hassels have a pleasant home and have ever taken an active interest in local community affairs. Mr. Hassel's early activities in civic affairs are noted above. He took a useful part in the organization of two of the townships of Norman county, helped to organize two school districts and donated land for school purposes in one of these districts. In other ways also he has played the part of a good citizen and as one of the real pioneers of the county he is fully entitled to the respect and consideration paid him by the community of which he has been a part ever since the beginning of a social order here.

AUGUST G. NELSON.

It is a pleasure to anyone, whether farmer or not, to look over a well-improved and finely kept farm like that of August G. Nelson of Oak Port township, Clay county. He is a man who believes in keeping abreast of the times, in adopting, so far as practicable, the most approved twentieth-century methods in general farming.

Mr. Nelson was born in Sweden, March 20, 1869, a son of Olaf and Elsie Nelson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their home, but immigrated to America about 1880, coming directly to Moorhead, Minnesota, where they spent the rest of their lives, dying there a number of years ago. Olaf Nelson followed civil engineering in Sweden, and was highly accomplished in his line. He lived practically retired after coming to America. His family consisted of five children, namely: August G. of this sketch; Christina lives in Australia; Axel, Gertrude and Henrietta.

August G. Nelson spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he was educated. He was about twenty-one years old when he came to the United States with the rest of the family. He attended school a while in Moorhead. As a young man he worked at various things in different places. He saved his

earnings and in 1895 purchased one hundred and sixty acres in Oak Port township, Clay county, where he has since resided. He worked hard developing the place and, prospering with advancing years, he later added eighty acres, now owning two hundred and eighty acres of productive and well-improved land. He erected suitable buildings and fences, also planted a large grove. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Nelson has remained unmarried. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and takes a practical interest in community affairs tending to the public good.

PEDER H. OVERBO.

Peder H. Overbo, gardener of Moorhead, was born in Norway, August 15, 1862. He is a son of Hermund and Carrie Peterson (Urness) Overbo, natives of Norway, where they spent their lives on a farm.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood in Norway and he attended the public schools there. He immigrated to America in 1874, locating first in Goodhue county, Minnesota, where he worked for his uncle, Nels Overbo, who came to America with him. After remaining in Goodhue county until 1881 he came to Moorhead, Clay county, and worked here on a farm for the same uncle. This farm is now owned by the subject of this sketch. His uncle preceded him to Clay county by about two years. Peder H. Overbo bought thirty-one acres of his uncle in 1912, which land lies within the city limits of Moorhead and is a very valuable tract. It is well improved and under a high state of intensive cultivation. Mr. Overbo carries on gardening on an extensive scale and is making a pronounced success of his work. He is a hard worker, persevering and painstaking and a close student of modern methods of trucking. His products, owing to their excellent quality, find a ready market.

Mr. Overbo was married in 1893 to Anna Kvam, a native of Norway. She is a daughter of Melker and Anna (Johanson) Kvam, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their future home on a farm, where the mother is still living, the father dying there some years ago. To Mr. and Mrs. Overbo six children have been born, namely: Harry, Nels, Caroline, Rudolph, Myrtle and Pearl. Mr. Overbo is a member of the Lutheran church.

WALTER B. HOLMES, M. D.

Rising above the masses there have been men in all ages and in all places, who by force of character and intellectual powers, leave a deep and abiding impression upon the institutions of their time. The life record of Dr. Walter B. Holmes, McDonaldsville township, Norman county, seems an exemplification of the words of Gladstone, who said: "Be inspired with the belief that life is a grand and noble calling, not a mean and groveling thing, that we are to shuffle through as best we can, but an elevating and lofty destiny."

Dr. Walter B. Holmes, city health officer of Ada and for years one of the best-known physicians of that city, is a British-American, a native of the Dominion of Canada, from the province of Ontario, where he was born in 1866, in the city of Lindsay, the eldest son of Benjamin Alexander and Lucia Ann (Holt) Holmes. His father was a native of Toronto, Canada, and the mother of Concord, New Hampshire, who moved to the United States in the seventies and settled in Minnesota. In this state Walter B. Holmes grew to manhood and commenced his educational career, graduating from the high school, valedictorian of his class. At an early age he moved to the city of Minneapolis and became an active participant in the business affairs of that city, and held the important position of assistant secretary of the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce until 1884. Some time later Doctor Holmes entered the University of Minnesota, matriculating in both the classical and scientific courses, and in the college activities organized and directed the first mandolin and guitar club on the campus for several years.

After receiving his degree of Bachelor of Science in 1888, Doctor Holmes occupied the position of hydraulic engineer of the Ramsey county water board until 1891. In the latter year he entered the medical department of the University of Minnesota and was graduated from the same at the head of a class of thirty-two members, with the *Cum Laude* degree and degree of Doctor of Medicine, in 1894. During the last two years of his course at the University, Doctor Holmes was a member of the University Press Club, representing the department of medicine on the editorial staff of the *Education Herald*, of the university. He was elected class quizzitor in anatomy in 1892, and acted as prosector to the chair of pathology during the junior and senior years of his course. During his college days Doctor Holmes was an active member of the Epilson chapter of the Nu Sigma Nu fraternity, and still continues to take a warm interest in the affairs of that popular Greek-letter society; he is at present one of the projectors and stockholders of the magnificent chapter house erected on the campus.



W. B. Holmes. M. D.

In 1897 Dr. Walter B. Holmes came into the Red River valley country and opened an office for the practice of his profession at Ada, where he has since made his home, for years having been recognized as one of the leading county physicians of the Red River valley. The Doctor has served as county physician and also as chairman of the board of health; as a registered pharmacist he is an active member of the State Pharmaceutical Association, and active member of the Red River Valley Medical Association and of the American Medical Association. He has ever given his earnest attention to the general civic and commercial affairs of his home town, serving as president of the Ada Commercial Club, of which he is an active member. Doctor Holmes is deemed by the state board of health and by the department of epidemiology of the State University, as one of the most efficient and capable executives in the service of the state, and is now serving his seventh year as city health officer. In 1907 Doctor Holmes was appointed physician and surgeon of the Great Northern Railroad, in which capacity he has enlisted his services under the council of the railroads and national defense committee, for the duration of the war. The Doctor is a Royal Arch Mason, a Knight Templar and belongs to the commandery; he is a noble of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, Zurah Temple No. 23 at Minneapolis, and for years has taken an active part in high Masonic affairs.

In 1906 Dr. Walter B. Holmes was united in marriage to Mrs. Valborg (Schriver) Norby, widow of Joris C. Norby, a former county auditor and newspaper editor, a memorial sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Holmes was born in Christiania, Norway, and came to the United States in 1888. Doctor and Mrs. Holmes are members of the Protestant Episcopal church and are warmly interested in the general social and cultural activities of the community in which they have resided for several years, helpful in promoting all movements designed to advance the common welfare. Mrs. Holmes is vice-president of the Norman County Red Cross Chapter and has successfully organized the Red Cross branches throughout the towns and villages of the county. She is an active member of the board of education, president of the Womens Civic League, former president of the Womans Christian Temperance Union, a member of the State Federation of Womens Clubs, president of and actively connected with the Schiller Literary Club, and ever giving of her time and abilities to the calls of benevolence and charity, and is recognized throughout the community as a woman of more than ordinary cultural and social attainments. Doctor Holmes was appointed member of the exemption board by Governor Burn-

quist, for the Norman county draft, and in that capacity has been rendering excellent service. The Doctor's surviving kinsman is an only brother, Dr. Eugene Holmes.

Doctor Holmes is possessed of many pronounced natural attributes, and brings to his labors in any direction a virile personality. While firm in his convictions, he is none the less tolerant of the opinions of others, and is held in high regard in and about the county and outside of it. He is an extensive reader and student, well versed in world history and is accounted one of the foremost scholars in the county. He has written many articles on sanitary science and the prevention of disease, especially in schools, and which have been published in the local press and copied into many papers in the larger centers. Doctor Holmes assisted in the preparation of the history of the medical profession in Norman county for the historical portion of this work.

C. JOHN SALOMONSON.

One of the energetic tillers of the soil in Highland Grove township, Clay county, is C. John Salomonson, who not only seems to know how to carry on the various departments of modern agriculture, but when to do a thing and when not to do it, which requires discriminating tact.

Mr. Salomonson was born in Sweden, May 19, 1866. He is a son of Bent Salomon and Anna Breta (Johnson) Peterson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and spent their lives on a farm, dying there. They never came to America. To these parents six children were born, named as follow: C. John, the subject of this sketch; August Wilhelm, Stena, Gustav, Arne and Mange. They are all living at this writing.

The subject of this review spent his boyhood on the home farm in Sweden, and there he attended the common schools. He went to school only two days in the United States. He came to this country in 1889, locating at once in Sibley county, Minnesota, where he worked one year, then crossed the line into Nicolett county, remaining there a year, then spent two years in Brown county, working out as a farm hand all these years. He then farmed for himself on rented land in Nicolett county. He then came to Clay county and located in Highland Grove township on the farm on which he still lives. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser and is now owner of a finely improved and productive farm of two hundred and sixty-five acres. Ninety-six acres are in Clay county

and the rest in Becker county, just across the line, but all in one body. He has made all the necessary improvements on the place, which ranks among the best farms of his locality. He has a splendid set of buildings, a good orchard, etc. He cleared about forty acres himself, which was covered with grubs.

Mr. Salomonson was married in May, 1895, to Jennie Matina Johanson, who was born in Sweden, where she spent her girlhood and attended school. She came to America about 1892, locating in Sibley county, Minnesota. Her parents lived and died in Sweden. To Mr. and Mrs. Salomonson eight children were born, all living at this writing, named as follow: Anna Eliabeth, Gustav Robert, Albert Harry, Henry Merwin, Clarence, Leonard Edwin, Carl Oscar, and Clifford Leroy. Mr. Salomonson is a member of the Lutheran church, which he attends with his family regularly.

MARTIN OLSON.

Martin Olson, who is engaged in the hotel and ice business in Moorhead, was born in Norway, November 23, 1875. He is a son of Marthinus and Caroline (Lund) Olson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their permanent home. The mother died some years ago, but the father is still actively engaged in farming there despite his advanced age. He has also been a sailor during a considerable portion of his life. The maternal grandparents were Iver and Anne (Lansem) Lund, both natives of Norway. Mr. Lund came to America in 1861 and enlisted in the Union army for service in the Civil War, proving to be an excellent and faithful soldier. After being honorably discharged and mustered out he returned to Norway, where his death occurred of ailments brought on by exposure while in the American army. His wife came to Minnesota, locating in Hawley, Clay county, about 1887 and there her death occurred. To Mr. and Mrs. Lund four children were born, namely: Anne, Christine, Mary and Martin. They all came to Hawley, Minnesota, about the year 1884, and there established their future homes.

Martin Olson grew to manhood in Norway and there attended the common schools. He came to America in 1890, locating at Hawley, Clay county, and he worked out as a farm hand in that vicinity for seven years; then went to work for the North Dakota Ice Company at Fargo, remaining with that firm for three years. He then purchased the property and

business of the Moorhead Ice Company, which he operated with success until 1916, when he sold out. In 1914 he bought the People's Ice Company at Moorhead, which he also sold in 1910. He then bought the Scandia Hotel at Moorhead which he still operates. His hotel is one of the popular hostelrys in this section of the Northwest, the traveling public finding Mr. Olson an obliging and courteous host and his hotel modern and comfortable in every detail. He also owns the Lyceum Theater which he built in 1913. He is still engaged in the ice business, being a stockholder in the Fargo Ice Company. He owned the Independent Ice Company of Fargo for eight years, selling out in 1915.

Mr. Olson was married in 1904 to Julia Thompson, of Twin Valley, Minnesota, and a daughter of P. P. Thompson and wife. She received a good education and prior to her marriage taught school for some time in Twin Valley. To Mr. and Mrs. Olson six children have been born, all living at this writing, namely: William, Irwin, Carrol, Waswold, Alice and Julia.

Mr. Olson is now serving his second term as alderman from his ward. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and fraternally is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

DAVID EMIL CARLSON.

David Emil Carlson, one of the skillful and pain-taking carpenters of the city of Moorhead, was born in Sweden, October 7, 1879. He is a son of Carl and Clara Josephina (Svenson) Larson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home and where the father still resides. The mother died some years ago. In his early life Carl Larson followed commercial fishing and later bought a farm, which he operated until retiring from active life several years ago. He and his wife had seven children, namely: Adolph, deceased; Emil, deceased; Anna and Agnes, both of whom still reside in Sweden; Arvid, who lives in New York City; David E., the subject of this sketch, and Claus, of Moorhead.

David E. Carlson grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools. In 1903 he immigrated to the New World, coming directly to Minnesota, reaching Moorhead on October 14 of that year. Desiring a higher education he attended the Minnesota State Normal at Moorhead for two years. As a young man he learned the carpenter's trade, at which

he became quite an expert in due course of time, and he has continued to follow the same ever since, being an adroit, prompt and honest workman his services have always been in demand and his work is satisfactory in every respect.

The subject of this sketch, who is unmarried, makes his home with his brother, Claus Carlson, or rather they live together in the same home. Claus Carlson was born in Sweden, February 21, 1881, and there he attended the common schools. He came to Moorhead with his brother, David E., and here he has since resided. He attended the State Normal School here about two years. As a young man he learned the cement business, which he has since continued with gratifying results. About 1898 he returned to Sweden for his bride, Hildur Carlson. After their marriage they remained in the old country about a year, then he came back to Minnesota and established his future home at Moorhead. To their union two children have been born, namely Martin and Gustav. The Carlsons attend the Swedish Lutheran church.

FRANK JOHNSON.

Cultivation of the soil began with the desire on the part of the cultivator to destroy weeds or plants not desired—plants that were likely to crowd out and injure the ones in which he was interested. But we now know that the destruction of weeds is a matter of secondary importance. We now cultivate to conserve moisture and to promote chemical and biological activity. One of the up-to-date farmers of Highland Grove township, Clay county, is Frank Johnson, who was born in Sweden, November, 8, 1861. He is a son of John and Anna Breta (Anderson) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew to maturity, married and established their home, and there the father spent his life, dying many years ago. His widow subsequently came to the United States with her son Frank. But illness overtook her en route and her death occurred about a week after arriving in Clay county, Minnesota. She had six children, named as follow: Andrew, deceased; Edward is living; Juel and Carl, deceased; Frank, of this sketch, and Anton, deceased.

Frank Johnson grew to manhood in Sweden and there received a common school education. He came to America in 1880, when nearly twenty years old, coming direct to Clay county, Minnesota. Besides his mother, his brother Juel accompanied him. Frank Johnson worked out in Clay county

as a hired hand for some time, also worked a year in Canada on construction work for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. He saved his earnings and in 1886 bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Highland Grove township, Clay county, and here he has since resided. It was all raw land at the start, but he broke the sod and developed a very productive and valuable farm from virgin prairie, putting on all improvements, built a comfortable residence, numerous outbuildings and fences, planted a grove and otherwise made his place one of the most desirable in his community. Under his careful and systematic tillage the soil has not lost any of its original fertility during his thirty years of diversified crop raising. He purchased the land from a railroad company. He was one of the pioneers in this part of the county and has lived to see many great changes inaugurated here.

Mr. Johnson was married in 1888 to Mary Backman, a native of Sweden, from which country she came to America with her parents when young. She attended the common schools. She was a daughter of Andrew Berg, a sketch of whom will be found on another page of this work. Mrs. Johnson's death occurred in 1889, in early life, about a year after her marriage. She left one child, Carl Johnson, who grew up on the homestead, received his education in the local rural schools, and is now assisting his father operate the home farm.

Mr. Johnson has been a member of the school board in his district continuously during the past fifteen years, or since 1902, and has done much toward improving the schools of his vicinity. He assisted in building the present Augustana Lutheran church in 1901.

FRANK KIMM.

All credit is due a man who wins success in his chosen field of endeavor in spite of obstacles, who, by persistency and energy, gains a competency and a position of honor as a man and citizen. The record of Frank Kimm, a farmer of Oak Port township, Clay county, is that of such a man, for he came to this locality in the days of its rapid growth from primordial conditions and here he has worked his way up from the bottom to definite success.

Mr. Kimm was born in Bremer county, Iowa, February 16, 1866, a son of John Francis and Julia (Downing) Kimm. The family moved from Iowa to southern Minnesota in 1868, locating on a farm and there the father

tilled the soil until his death in 1886. The mother subsequently came to Clay county, where she spent her last years, dying in 1906 at an advanced age. To these parents the following children were born: Frank, whose name introduces this biographical review; Nellie and Lillie, twins, and Fred, deceased.

John F. Kimm, father of the above named children, was a full-blooded Frenchman, and was born in the year 1809. He grew to manhood in Europe, being born in Germany, and he served for some time in the German army, taking part in one of the wars of that country prior to coming to the United States. During the Mexican War he served as chief cook for Gen. Winfield Scott. He was an expert chef. When he crossed the Mexican border on his way home he carried with him the sum of four thousand dollars in gold, which he secreted in old-fashioned saddlebags, which were thrown across his horse's back. Once he lost it, but retracing his steps was fortunate enough to find it.

Frank Kimm grew to manhood on the home farm in southern Minnesota, being two years old when his parents removed from Bremer county, Iowa. He received his education in the early-day district schools of Blue Earth county, this state, where he continued to reside until 1893, when he came to Clay county and bought four hundred and eighty acres in Oak Port township. The farm is well located not far from the city of Moorhead. However, he did not move to this place until 1910, having operated the Benedict farm in the meantime, operating it together with his own. The Benedict farm is a large place lying just north of his own. He has carried on general farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. He now operates fourteen hundred acres in all, raising large quantities of grain and great numbers of live stock. He is one of the leading farmers of the county. He also runs a dairy, keeping an average of thirty good cows, some full-blooded and high-grade Guernseys. He uses a milking machine and his dairy is up-to-date in every respect, special attention being paid to sanitary conditions. His land is highly improved in every respect, including a commodious home and numerous, well-equipped outbuildings. Everything about his place denotes thrift, good taste and excellent management.

Mr. Kimm was married in 1898 to Gertrude Pearson, a native of Sweden, from which country she came to America when young. To Mr. and Mrs. Kimm twelve children have been born, all living at this writing but two, and all being still at home with their parents, namely: Frances,

Annabel, Fred and Alice, both deceased; Benjamin, Louis, Arthur, Mabel, Robert, Alexander, Ruth Elenda, and Grace Vivian.

Mr. Kimm is a member of the Dilworth Dairy Association. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He has served as township assessor and in the spring of 1911 he became county commissioner, which position he still holds, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

PETER BRUNSBURG.

One of the substantial and prosperous farmers of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he enters unostentatiously into the good work of the community, was born in Thoten, Norway, February 24, 1850, a son of Ole and Mary Brunsberg, both of whom were natives of Norway; however, they spent their last days in America. In 1867 the father came to America, accompanied by his son, the subject of this sketch, to find a location, and some years later he was joined by Mary Brunsberg, his wife. They were the parents of eight children who grew to maturity: Peder, deceased; Lizzie, Martha, Ole, deceased; John, Martin, deceased; Peter, the subject of this review, and Ed.

Peter Brunsberg was just entering the age of early manhood when he left the land of his birth, where he had acquired an elementary education which the time and the place afforded, and came in 1867 in company with his father to cast his lot with the agricultural interests of the New World. They came on out to Minnesota, and after a short stay in St. Peter, Nicollet county, the father went into Sibley county, which joins Nicollet on the north, where he took a homestead of eighty acres. His wife joined him there. His death occurred on the homestead, but Mrs. Brunsberg died later at the home of her son, Peter, near Fertile, Minnesota. After gaining some valuable experience in the extensive agricultural operations of the Northwest, Peter Brunsberg left his father's home, joined a party of settlers who were coming north up into this state. He drove a yoke of oxen, and, after a tiresome journey of three weeks, he arrived in Polk county, where he took a homestead of one hundred and sixty acres, two and one-half miles southeast of Fertile. Since he had brought with him the necessary farming implements and had driven some stock before him as he came up into this country, it was not long until he was well started on the road to success in his farming.

After he had remained there eight or nine years, he decided that a better opportunity awaited him down in Norman county, hence he sold out and bought one hundred and twenty acres in Bear Park township, this county, where he has since continued to live. With his wonted thrift and industry, he set to work to improve his new holding and now he has a well-cultivated farm and an excellent farm plant, comprised of good buildings and a comfortable farm home, where he carries on general farming very successfully and efficiently.

In 1875, Mr. Brunsberg was married to Johana Erickson, who was born in Sweden, a daughter of Erick Peterson and wife, and to this union have been born the following children: Ole, Martin, John, Albert and Emma, all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Brunsberg are devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Rindahl and the former helped to build the church edifice of this congregation. They are also connected with all the good works of the community. In politics, Mr. Brunsberg has never sought after office, but he takes a good citizen's interest in the civil and political affairs of the community.

JACOB HURNER.

The swiss have ever been known as a liberty-loving and independent people. Switzerland has furnished an admirable example to many of the larger nations of the earth and her government and institutions might be emulated with profit by the kingdoms and monarchies whose subjects do not seem to be as fortunate as the Swiss. Among this nationality in Clay county is Jacob Hurner, a farmer of Spring Prairie township.

Mr. Hurner was born in Switzerland in 1852. He is a son of Jacob and Anna (Moser) Hurner, both natives of Switzerland, where they grew up, married and established their home, remaining there until 1873, when they immigrated to America, reaching here in the spring of that year, joining their son Jacob, who had preceded them to the New World in the autumn of 1872, locating in Nebraska. The father remained in that state until his death, after which the mother went to Oregon, where she died. To these parents six children were born, namely: Jacob, Emma, Albert, Louis, Fred and Alexander.

Jacob Hurner grew up in Switzerland and there he attended the public schools. He immigrated to America in the fall of 1872, single, and located

in Platt county, Nebraska, where he engaged in farming two years, then moved to Boone county, Iowa, where he worked out as a farm hand; he also followed his trade of blacksmith, which he had learned in the old country under his father, who devoted most of his life to blacksmithing. Jacob Hurner also took up a homestead in Platt county, which he improved and lived on until 1896, when he moved to Spring Prairie township, Clay county, buying the farm on which he still makes his home. He has prospered through close application and good management and, adding to his original holdings from time to time, he now owns three hundred and twenty acres of excellent land on which he has made important improvements, in fact, developed the land from the raw prairie to a high state of cultivation. His first one hundred and sixty acres, on which he has made his home, was railroad land. He has a good dwelling and outbuildings sufficient for all his needs. He has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. He has been one of the stockholders in the Glyndon Creamery since its organization.

Mr. Hurner was married in 1882 to Minnie Fritzmyer, a native of Iowa, where she grew to womanhood and attended the public schools. She is a daughter of Simon Fritzmyer and wife. Ten children, all surviving at this writing, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hurner, namely: Emma, Caroline, Anna, Martha, Sarah, Lydia, Fred, Paul, Ruth and Benjamin. Mr. Hurner has taken an active interest in local public affairs. He has been a member of the township board for many years, about thirteen in all, including the last seven years, and is still in office.

NELS N. MELVEY.

Nels N. Melvey, a well-known contractor, living at Moorhead, Clay county, was born in Norway, April 30, 1867. He is a son of Nels and Marie (Hagness) Melvey, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and resided until 1881, when they immigrated to America. After stopping a while in St. Paul, Minnesota, they went on to North Dakota, but not long thereafter located at Moorhead, Minnesota, where they established their home, the father following the carpenter's trade in that town the rest of his life. He and his wife belonged to the Lutheran church. They were parents of six children, namely: Nels N., Mollie, Marin, Sarah and Ingeborg, who died in early life, and Andrew, who is also deceased.

Nels N. Melvey spent his boyhood in Norway, where he attended school. He was about fourteen years old when his parents brought him to America, and he finished his education in Moorhead, Minnesota. When a young man he learned the carpenter's trade under his father and he has continued in this line ever since, together with contracting in later life, starting contracting for himself about 1910. He became an expert workman in early life and his work has always been eminently satisfactory and his services have been in constant demand. He is a close observer and a student of modern building methods and he has kept fully abreast of the times in his chosen field of endeavor. He is a stockholder and director in the First State Bank of Moorhead. He is also a director of the Key City Building Association.

Mr. Melvey was married in the spring of 1887 to Ingeborg Vinger, a native of Norway, from which country she came to America with her brother. Her father, Johan Share, died in Norway, and her mother, Johana, remarried and in 1883 came to America, her second husband, Erick Arneson, establishing a home in Moorhead. To Mr. and Mrs. Melvey nine children have been born, namely: Tilla Olphena, Jelmer Norine, Elert, Arthur, Ernest, Nora, Fletchert Norwin, Harold Francis and Dorothy Hetel. They are all living at this writing.

Mr. Melvey is active in local public affairs and has been an alderman for ten years, during which time he has done much for the general good of Moorhead. He belongs to the Lutheran church, and fraternally is a member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

BERNHARD JULIUS SOLUM.

One of the most enterprising and successful farmers of Tansem township, Clay county, is Bernhard Julius Solum, who was born in Norway, in October, 1866. He is a son of Petrus P. and Bergetta (Klingen) Solum, both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in the summer of 1868, locating in Winneshiek county, Iowa, where they remained until 1871, the father following the carpenter's trade, which he had learned in Norway. From Iowa he made the overland journey with an ox-team hitched to a prairie schooner, to Clay county, locating on raw land in section 4, Tansem township. It was about half covered with timber, the other half being open prairie. He began life there in true pioneer fashion, breaking

the sod with his oxen and making necessary improvements and there he engaged in farming successfully until his death about the year 1907. He and his family were accompanied by Erick Hanson and family from Iowa, and they were the first two settlers in the northern part of the township. The widow of Petrus P. Solum is still living on the old home place in this township. He helped organize Tansem township, and he served on the township board in the early days. He also helped organize the first church in Clay county—the Greng Lutheran church at Rollag, where services are still held. He also helped organize the Rollag Telephone Company, in which he continued to be interested until his death. He was also a stockholder in the Farmers Elevator Company at Pelican Rapids. His family consisted of nine children, named as follows: Bernard Julius, of this sketch, is the eldest; Christina, Julia, Anna, Sana, Nettie, Petra, Peter and Alma. They are all living at this writing.

Bernhard J. Solum, whose name introduces this review, was educated in the common schools of his native community; the school house being a number of miles away, in the winter time he went to and fro on skees over the deep snows. Indians were still numerous in this locality in those days. Young Solum remained on the home farm with his parents, assisting with the general work, until he was thirty-one years old; he then located on his present farm in section 9, Tansem township, which he purchased. It consists of one hundred and eighty acres. He cleared and improved it by his own efforts. He operates his father's old home place in connection with his own and has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. About 1906 he started auctioneering and has continued this line ever since, being known as one of the most successful and popular auctioneers in this and adjoining counties, frequently crying sales in Clay, Otter Tail, Becker and Wilkin counties. At times his crowds number one thousand people.

Mr. Solum was married on November 16, 1897, to Nellie Norheim, who was born in Norway and is a daughter of M. H. and Gunhild Norheim, natives of Norway, from which country they came to America with their family, locating near Rollag, Parke township, Clay county, where they lived for some time and where the death of the mother occurred. Mr. Norheim later moved to Benson county, North Dakota. To Mr. and Mrs. Solum the following children have been born: Joseph Norman, Gerhard, Bertha Charlotta, Julius Raymond, Carl Herman and Esther Eleanor. They are all living at this writing.

Mr. Solum is a justice of the peace, which office he has held for a number

of years to the satisfaction of all concerned. He has been clerk of the local school board for over twenty years. He is now township chairman, which position he has held for three years, and he has been a member of the township board for thirteen years. He is a member of the Rollag Lutheran church which he helped organize. He has been one of the leading men in his township since the pioneer days and is held in the highest esteem by all who know him.

ALBERT W. PERRY.

Among the well-known and successful residents of Ada, Norman county, is Albert W. Perry, a proficient plumber, who was born in Merrick county, New Hampshire, July 26, 1858, a son of Harston J. and Emile E. (Morey) Perry.

Harston J. and Emile E. Perry were natives of the states of Vermont and New Hampshire, respectively, and were educated in their respective communities. After their marriage they established their home in New Hampshire, where they lived for a number of years, and where Mr. Perry engaged in general farming. In 1885, they decided to leave the New England state and seek a home in the West. It was in that year that they came to South Dakota, and there in March, 1885, Mr. Perry homesteaded three hundred and twenty acres near Northville. The territory was a new one at that time and it meant much hard work and privation for the little family to make a home. A house was erected and the task of developing the tract was begun, which in time became one of the ideal farms of this section of the state. The tract was later increased, until there were six hundred and forty acres in the farm. Here Mr. Perry engaged in general farming and stockraising for many years, and there the wife and mother died. The father died some years ago, when on a visit to his old home in the East. They were highly respected people and had much to do with the moral and general development of the new settlement. They were the parents of the following children: Albert W., Curtis H., Ida E. and Della, all of whom are now living. Ida and Della are now residing in South Dakota.

During the Civil War two members of the Perry family enlisted in defence of the Union, and gave their lives for that cause. Martin Perry, an uncle of Albert W., entered the service as a drummer boy, and was taken sick and came home and died. The other uncle, Morey, saw much active service and was killed in battle. The Perry family are of the same line

as Commodore Perry. The family were among the very first settlers in this country, and Albert W. Perry has one of the broad axes, with which the Pilgrim Fathers hewed the logs to build their houses. The ax has been handed down from generation to generation, and is now in the home of Mr. Perry and is to him one of his most valued possessions. Uri Perry, the paternal grandfather of Albert W. Perry, was the son of Nathan Perry, who lived and died near Marble Head, Massachusetts. The grandfather was one of the pioneers of Mole county, Massachusetts, and there he cleared a farm and made his home until the time of his death. He and the other members of the Perry family had much to do with the early history of that section of the country. Their education and progressive spirit had much to do with the future greatness of the state, and today their names and their work are held in grateful remembrance.

Albert W. Perry received his education in the local schools and in the Peoples Academy at Morristown, Vermont, and grew to manhood amid the environments of the New England states. On March 9, 1882, he came to Ashton, South Dakota, which was then the end of the Milwaukee railroad, and remained at that place for the rest of the summer. He then went to Northville, that state, and associated himself with the firm of Britton Yard & Company, land and locating attorneys. The firm did a large business and practiced before the Watertown land office. In their capacity of locating agents and attorneys, the firm located practically all the people in the half of Spink and Faulk counties. After two years engaged in this business, Mr. Perry homesteaded and tree claimed three hundred and twenty acres of land in Faulk county. This he improved and developed, and there he made his home for five years, when he returned to Northville, where he had one hundred and sixty acres of good land, which he had pre-empted. He then purchased three hundred and twenty acres more of land and there made his home for three years, after which he left the farm and moved to Minneapolis, where he entered the employ of the Lake Belt Supply Company, and there learned the heating and plumbing business. He remained in Minneapolis until the year 1909, when he returned to the farm at Northville, and erected fine buildings on the place, and put down an artesian well. His buildings were all modern and substantial, and were among the best in that locality. He remained on the farm for three years, during which time he managed his extensive interests and engaged in the heating and plumbing business in the village of Northville and the surrounding country. He met with the greatest success in his business enterprise, and in 1911 he came to Ada, Norman county, where he has since been successfully engaged in the

business of heating and plumbing. He is today one of the substantial and successful business men of town, and is operating a growing business. He has a beautiful home, modern in every respect and nicely located, and one that is a credit to the little city.

On April 4, 1883, Albert W. Perry married Hattie Garrison, a native of Gouverneur, New York, a daughter of Nathan Garrison and wife, who were born and educated in Massachusetts, and who later settled in the state of New York, where he died when Mrs. Perry was but a young girl. To Albert W. and Hattie Perry have been born the following children: Fannie L., Mazzie, Albert H. and Zuleime. Mr. Perry is a member of the Congregational church. He and his wife have long been active in the social life of the community in which they live and where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all. Coming to the West, as he did, when but a young man, Mr. Perry has by his own efforts met with success, and has become one of the prominent and substantial men of the county.

OLE A. DAHL.

Ole A. Dahl, a substantial farmer of Bear Park township, Norman county, where he is the owner of eighty acres of well-improved land and where he is interested in the common business enterprises of the community, was born in Bear Park township, on the farm where Otto Dahl now lives, November 26, 1883, a son of Andreas and Oleana (Evanson) Dahl, who were both natives of Norway, from which country they came to America in 1883.

Andreas Dahl was a son of Ole and Kari Grytdahl, both of whom spent their whole lives in Norway, where the father was a farmer. They were the parents of twelve children, as follow: Carl, deceased; Ingeborg, Marie, deceased; Davet Johanas, deceased; Karena, Otto, Nils O., Ole, Andreas, deceased; Taale and Augusta. Reared on the old home farm back in his native Norway, Andreas Dahl there acquired habits of industry which were of great use to him when he came to this country. Some years after his marriage in Norway, he decided to immigrate to America and landed on the soil of the New World in 1883. He and his wife came directly out to Minnesota, where they stopped for a short time at Ada and from thence they went to the home of Ole Garden, in Bear Park township. While at the home of his friend, Andreas Dahl looked about for a location and in 1884 took a home-

stead of one hundred and sixty acres in Bear Park township, where his son, Ole A. Dahl, now lives. Immediately he began the improvement and cultivation of his new holding, but he was not permitted to enjoy the fruits of his labors for long, as his death occurred in 1890. His wife, who re-married now resides in Winger, Minnesota. To Andreas Dahl and wife were born the following children: Ole A., the subject of this review; Eliza and Peter, all of whom are living. Both the father and mother were devoted members of the Norwegian Lutheran church, belonging to a congregation of that faith in Waukon township.

Reared on the home farm, to the development of which he contributed a great amount of labor, since he was the oldest child and since his father died at a rather early age, Ole A. Dahl early understood the responsibility which rests upon a settler in a new country. Under his management the farm continued to produce bountifully and now he owns eighty acres, which comprises one-half of the old homestead. He has remodeled all the buildings and now is the owner of a well-appointed farm plant. He carries on general farming operations and is quite successful in the same.

In 1906, Mr. Dahl was married to Ingeborg Fliflet, who was born in Norway, a daughter of Lars Fliflet and wife, and to this marriage six children have been born, namely: Arthur, Leonard, Tilda, who is dead; Ralph, Melvin, deceased, and Obert. Mr. and Mrs. Dahl are consistent and conscientious members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Rindahl, and they are rearing their children in that faith.

Mr. Dahl is interested in the co-operative agencies of the community, holding shares in the creamery at Rindahl and in the Farmers Store at Bear Park. He has never sought public office, but gives a good citizen's attention to the civil affairs of the community.

HALVOR W. THUNE.

Halvor W. Thune, a photographer and one of the successful business men of Ada, Norman county, Minnesota, was born in Winneshiek county, Iowa, on August 11, 1857, and is the son of Thomas W. and Sarah (Hagen) Thune, natives of Norway, and there they were educated in the public schools and grew to manhood and womanhood, later coming to this country. They were of the farming class in that faraway northern country, and after their marriage in this country established their home on a farm in Winneshiek

county, Iowa, where they continued to live until the death of the father in 1874. The mother died in 1896. They were among the progressive people of the district, and became prominent in the affairs of their home township. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were ever devoted to the cause of religion and education. They were the parents of the following children: Halvor W., Jane, Edwin, George, Mary, Alfred and Oscar.

Halvor W. Thune received his education in the early district schools of Winneshiek county and was reared on the home farm. After reaching manhood he engaged in general farming for some years and then, in 1881, he entered a photograph gallery, with the intention of learning the business. After having become proficient in the art he, in the year 1883, came to Ada, Minnesota, where he has since been successfully engaged in the business. Although he has devoted the greater part of his active life to the interests of his business, he has always been interested in farming, and is now the owner of a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near his home town. His life has been an active one and he has met with much success in his chosen work. He was never content unless his finished products were the best that the profession could produce, and his reputation as a photographer is well known throughout a large territory.

On May 16, 1887, Halvor W. Thune was united in marriage to Sarah Grinde, who was born in Norway, daughter of Erick Grinde and wife. To this union the following children were born: Elmer T., Herman, Ruth, Alta L., Victor F. and Florence L. Mrs. Thune died some years ago, and in the year 1914 Mr. Thune was married to Mrs. Dena (Hagen) Uggen, the daughter of Ole Hagen, of Winneshiek county, Iowa. Mr. Thune and family are active members of the Lutheran church and are prominent in the affairs of the local society. The Thune family have, since coming to the United States, been prominent in all local affairs with which they were concerned. The early members of the family, having come to this country with the intention of establishing a home in the undeveloped region of Iowa, demonstrated their ability as successful men and women on the plains of that state. Their early lives were hard ones, yet they were determined in their efforts and in the end met with success. The later members of the family were no less determined in their efforts to meet with success, yet perhaps in a different line of endeavor. They, too, have been interested in the final development of the district in which they have established their homes and where they have been instrumental in the growth of the moral, educational and religious sentiment.

Ever since engaging in the sterner realities of life, Mr. Thune has taken an active interest in all the affairs of his home town and district. For a number of years he has been court commissioner and chief of the fire department. For two terms he served as mayor of Ada, and is now secretary of the local school board. To the duties of all of his official positions he has given the most careful care and attention, has served the people well and honorably, and today is held in high regard on account of the service that he has rendered.

WILLIAM O. ISHAUG.

It is a pleasure to look over a well-kept and well-stocked farm like that of William O. Ishaug, of Tansem township, Clay county. He was born in Fillmore county, Minnesota, December 27, 1863, a son of Goodman O. and Ingeborg (Stanshole) Ishaug, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1861, when they immigrated to America, coming direct to Fillmore county, Minnesota, where they bought land and established their future home on a farm. Ten years later, in 1871, they came overland, driving an ox-team to a prairie schooner to Clay county, the trip requiring four weeks, being among the early pioneers here, when neighbors were few and trading posts far remote. The father pre-empted the land, the place on which the subject of this sketch now resides. He broke the prairie sod with his oxen, erected buildings and put the land under cultivation and had one of the best one hundred and sixty acre farms in the township. His children have kept the land well improved, clearing some of it, and they have also erected new and more modern buildings. There occurred the death of the mother in 1913. Goodman O. Ishaug went to Polk county, this state, in 1883, where he homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres on which he resided for a period of fifteen years; he then returned to Clay county, making his home on the farm with his son, William O. He helped organize and build the first church—the Snejd Lutheran church, in his locality. His family consisted of five children, namely: Oleana, the wife of Peter Arneson; Bertha, the wife of John Peterson; Hannah, deceased; Hannah, the second, deceased; and William O., of this sketch.

William O. Ishaug grew to manhood on the home farm. He was eight years old when the family moved from Fillmore to Clay county. He attended the district schools. He has remained on the home farm in Tansem township and now owns three hundred and twenty acres, constituting

an excellent and well-improved farm, on which he has erected a fine group of buildings. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle.

Mr. Ishaug was married in 1884 to Sophia Nelson, who was born in Norway, from which country she came to America with her parents when young. She is a daughter of Christian Nelson and wife, who were pioneers in Tansem township, where they became well established on a farm as the result of their industry and perseverance. Thirteen children, all living at this writing, but one, have been born to William O. Ishaug and wife, named as follow: Carl, Josephine, deceased; Oscar, Hilda, Alfred, Josephine, Helmer, Emma, Henry, Melvin, Selma, Victor and Ferdinand.

ADOLPH GUSTAVSON.

Adolph Gustavson, a successful farmer of Cromwell township, Clay county, belongs to that type of adventurous men who spread civilization in new countries, giving vent to that mysterious quality in the blood of primitive people to push on to the edge of things.

Mr. Gustavson was born in Sweden, July 4, 1853. He is a son of Gustav and Ann (Melberg) Erickson, natives of Sweden, where they grew up, married and established their permanent home on a farm and died there. They never came to America. They were parents of ten children, five of whom grew to maturity, named as follows: Adolph, of this sketch; John, foreman in a glass factory in Sweden; Tilda, who lives on the old homestead in Sweden; Christie, the wife of Andrew Erickson and they make their home in North Dakota, and Emil, who lives on his father's old farm in Sweden, and in connection with farming he operates a butcher shop.

Adolph Gustavson grew up on the home farm in Sweden and he helped his father with the general work on the same when a boy. He received his education in the common schools. He immigrated to America in 1884, first locating in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he spent two and one-half years, first securing employment in a planing mill; he later worked for a farmer and gardener, who owned a farm between Minneapolis and Anoka. He then came to Clay county, and helped build the first hotel at Ulen. He had learned the carpenter's trade in Sweden. Not long after coming to Clay county he bought eighty acres of railroad land, which he developed into a good farm on which he has since made his home, with the exception

of one summer, when he rented out his land and herded stock for George S. Barnes, near Glyndon, soon after coming here. He worked hard to get his land under cultivation. He first trained steers with which he broke up the sod, and continued farming with oxen for seven or eight years. He erected good buildings in due course of time and set out a large grove, which is now one of the attractive features of his place. He did all this work himself. Prospering with advancing years he added another eighty, buying all his land from a railroad company. He now has one of the choice farms of his locality, and is carrying on general farming and stock raising, with very gratifying results.

Mr. Gustavson was married in the fall of 1886 to Ulricka Gustavson, who was born in Sweden, where she spent her girlhood and attended school. She came to America on the same ship with the subject of this sketch, and on to Minneapolis with him. She was also accompanied by two sisters and her father. This family came on to Clay county and located in Highland Grove township, where the father, Gustav Anderson, located on a farm. Ten children, all living at this writing, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Gustavson, namely: Anna, Regina, Alma, Ellen, Einar, David, Effie, Hilga and Freda are twins, and Herbert. Mr. Gustavson is a member of the Lutheran church.

HERBRAND ENGEN.

Herbrand Engen, a farmer of Skree township, Clay county, was born in Norway, September 30, 1875. He is a son of Herbrand and Turi (Torsdatter) Engen, both natives of Norway, where they grew up and were married and made their home until 1906, when they immigrated to America, to make their home with their son Herbrand of this sketch. The mother is now deceased. The father was a farmer in the old country. He is a member of the Lutheran church. His family consisted of six children, namely: Bergit, Viel, Herbrand, Thor, Nels and Kittle. The last named is deceased. The living children all make their homes in Clay county, with the exception of Bergit, who lives just over the line in Becker county.

Herbrand Engen grew to manhood in Norway and attended school there. He came to America in 1893, making the long trip directly to Hawley, Clay county. He worked out as a farm hand for some time, and in 1907 bought two hundred and forty acres in Skree township and here he has since

resided, carrying on general farming and stock raising with most gratifying results. He has made many improvements on his place, including the erection of a barn and granary. He is also interested in the Farmers Creamery at Hawley, being one of the stockholders since it was first organized.

Mr. Engen was married in January, 1898, to Ragna Hieberg, a daughter of Soren P. and Maren Hieberg, natives of Norway, where they grew up and married. They immigrated to America about 1880 and homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres in Skree township, Clay county, which they improved and on which they established a very comfortable home, where her death occurred over twenty years ago. Mr. Hieberg is still living on his fine farm there, which consists of two hundred and eighty acres. He has two children, Hilda, wife of Hans Alm, and Ragna, wife of the subject of this sketch. To Mr. and Mrs. Engen ten children have been born, namely: Trace, deceased; Helena, deceased; Tilda, Selvin, Theodore, Lilian, Helena, Herbrand, Jr., Norman and Vernon are twins.

Mr. Engen has served as justice of the peace and as road overseer, discharging his duties as a public servant in an able, faithful and highly satisfactory manner. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

EMIL EUREN.

Emil Euren, for many years a leading contractor of Moorhead, Clay county, was born in Sweden, September 13, 1859. He is a son of Per and Clara (Hendricksdatter) Euren, both natives of Sweden, in which country they lived and died. The father was a farmer; he also followed the trades of bricklayer and plasterer. His family consisted of thirteen children, eight of whom are still living, namely: Lars, Erick, Aren, Louisa, Sophia, Emil, Gust and Theodore.

Emil Euren grew to manhood in Sweden and there attended the public schools and learned the trades of brick mason and plasterer under his father. He was twenty-one years old when, in 1880, he made the long trip from Sweden directly to Fargo, North Dakota, where he soon found work at his trades. In 1881 he located in Moorhead, where he has since made his home, remaining at his present location for thirty-six years. He built the home where he lives—a comfortable, modernly appointed residence that would be a credit to towns much larger than Moorhead. He continued working at his trades until about 1887, when he began contracting for

himself, both in bricklaying and plastering. He is an expert in each and his services have been in constant demand, for his work has always been high-class and promptly and honestly done. He has always been a close student of modern methods in his line of work.

Mr. Euren was married in 1881 to Marie Hallquist, a native of Sweden and a daughter of Gust and Henrietta (Rasmusson) Hallquist, both natives of Sweden, where they established their home on a farm and where the mother still resides, the father dying some time ago. To these parents six children were born, all still living, namely: Marie, wife of the subject of this sketch; Caroline, who lives in Sweden; Henrietta, who also resides in the old country; Sophia lives in Boston, Massachusetts; Alga lives in Sweden, and Anna makes her home in Boston.

Mrs. Euren came to Fargo in 1880. She has borne her husband eight children, all of whom survive at this writing, namely: Oscar, Alga, who is the wife of G. E. Freburg; Eddie, Signe, Hjalmer, Iver, Conrad and Gertrude. Mr. Euren has been a member of the city council from his ward at two different periods. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church.

JOHN C. FOSTER.

John C. Foster, a well-known and successful farmer and stockman of Lockhart township, Norman county, was born in England on October 1, 1859, a son of Frank and Elizabeth (Collins) Foster. His parents were also natives of that country, and highly respected people, who lived and died in the land of their nativity.

John C. Foster received his early education in the schools of England, where he lived until he was eleven years of age, when in 1870 he came to America alone. On his arrival in this country he proceeded to the state of Illinois and located at Jacksonville, where he continued to reside until 1915, when he came to Lockhart, Minnesota, and purchased the old Lockhart farm of one thousand two hundred and four acres.

In 1874, John C. Foster was united in marriage to Emma Parkin, of English parents, but she was born and reared in Scott county, Illinois. To this union the following children have been born: Charles, Richard, Bert, Roy, Leslie and Bessie. Mr. and Mrs. Foster are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are prominent in the activities of the com-

munity in which they live and where they are held in the highest regard and esteem by all who know them. Mr. Foster is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and takes much interest in the growth and success of that organization.

The parents of Mr. Foster were of the farming class in England and the father spent his life as a laborer on farms there. The opportunities were small for the young man without funds, with which to start on life's work, and being an energetic youth, John C. Foster decided when but a small boy to seek his fortune in America. He left his home and came to the United States at the age when most boys are in school. The parents of Mrs. Emma (Parkin) Foster were Richard and Sarah (Robinson) Parkin, who received their education in the schools of England and later came to this country and established their home in the state of Illinois many years ago. Their home was near Jacksonville and in the vicinity of the farm of two hundred and forty acres of John C. Foster.

Few men have risen to a higher degree of usefulness and influence than has John C. Foster. Coming to America, a mere lad, alone and without funds, he has by his own efforts become one of the substantial and successful men of the community in which he lives. His success has been due to correct living, hard work and the practice of economy. He has always taken much interest in local affairs and is held in high esteem.

J. H. POWERS.

J. H. Powers, well-known professor of music, was born in Potsdam, New York, in 1882, a son of James L. and Charlotte (Swift) Powers, both natives of New York, the father of Louisville, and the mother, of Potsdam, of that state. James L. Powers was a farmer in New York state, where he lived and reared his family.

J. H. Powers received his elementary education in the public schools of Potsdam, New York, and afterwards attended the Potsdam Normal School, from which he graduated in 1903. He early evinced a desire for a musical career and completed a course in the Crane Institute of Music and graduated in 1904. In 1905 he came to Willmar, Minnesota, where he had charge of the music in the public schools for one year. He then went to Hutchinson, Minnesota, and took charge of the music in the schools of that place for three years. From 1908 to 1909 he was in Crookston, Minnesota, engaged

in the same line of work, and came to Moorhead in the latter year. He has been director of music in the normal school at Moorhead since 1909.

In 1908 J. H. Powers and Mary Brainard were united in marriage. To this union four children have been born: Doratha, Dudley, Harold and Arthur. Mr. Powers is an adherent of the Congregational church in Moorhead, and his fraternal affiliation is with the Masonic order.

HENNING E. GRUTLE.

Henning E. Grutle, manager of the Twin Valley Telephone Company and formerly and for years one of Norman county's best-known school teachers, is a native of the kingdom of Norway, but has been a resident of Minnesota since the days of his infancy and of Norman county since he was about three years of age. He was born on a farm in the vicinity of the city of Bergen, one of the most important Norwegian seaports, January 31, 1876, son of Reinert and Martha (Ellingson) Grutle, also natives of Norway, who came to America in that same year, the subject of this sketch thus having been but an infant in arms when he arrived in the United States, and proceeded on out to Minnesota, settling in Goodhue county.

Reinert Grutle had but few possessions when he came to this country and after a few years of residence in Goodhue county decided that a better start could be made up in this part of the state, where land was cheaper and the opportunities for the newcomer were a bit more equal than in the more populous sections of the state; so in 1880 he came up into the Red River valley and bought a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in what later came to be organized as Fossum township, Norman county, where he established his home, presently becoming accounted one of the most substantial and influential pioneers of that section of the county. Mr. Grutle had acquired an excellent education in his native land and not long after becoming a resident of Norman county was selected as the teacher of the parochial school in the neighborhood in which he had settled and was for twenty-five or thirty years maintained in that important and useful position, thus exerting a wide and wholesome influence upon the youth of that neighborhood. In 1910 he and his wife left the farm in Fossum township and moved to Twin Valley, where they are now living. They are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and have ever taken an interested and helpful part in the good works of the community of which they have been residents since pioneer days.

Reared on the home farm in Fossum township, Henning E. Grutle received an excellent education under the careful direction of his learned father and when little more than a boy began teaching school in the district schools of Norman county, meanwhile continuing his labors on the farm during the summers, and for eleven years was engaged as a teacher. In the year 1906 he became one of the organizers of the Twin Valley Telephone Company at Twin Valley and has ever since made his home in that village. Upon the organization of the telephone company and the establishment of the telephone plant Mr. Grutle was made manager of the same and has ever since been retained in that important position, having done much during that time to extend the telephone service throughout the territory covered by the Twin Valley exchange, and has long been regarded as one of the most energetic and substantial citizens of that thriving village.

In the year 1912 H. E. Grutle was united in marriage to Gida Gullingsrud, daughter of Ole Gullingsrud and wife, and to this union three children have been born, Reinert, Grace and Olive. Mr. and Mrs. Grutle have a very pleasant home at Twin Valley and take a proper interest in the general social and cultural activities of that village and of the community at large. They are members of the Lutheran (Synod) church and take an interested part in church work, as well as in the general good works of the community and are helpful in promoting such movements as are designed to advance the common welfare.

JAMES BURNS.

Life in the open country; life in the growing grass, the waving fields of wheat, the springing corn; life in the trees and birds, and in the developing animals on the farm. Any man who works on the land is bound to feel that he is closer to the real springs of nature, the most genuine sources of inspiration. That is one reason why the life of the farmer is the best. One of the contented farmers of Eglon township, Clay county, is James Burns, who was born in the state of New York in 1873. He is a son of Patrick and Anna Burns, both natives of Ireland, where they spent their earlier years, the father in the city of Dublin, his birthplace. He was about twenty-five years old when he immigrated to the United States. After working in the copper mines in Michigan for some time he came to Clay county in 1874 and took up a homestead in section 6, Eglon township, his place consisting of eighty acres. He developed his farm and made a com-

fortable living. His sons later added more land to the original place. He was married before leaving Ireland. The death of Patrick Burns occurred in 1898 at the age of fifty-two years. His widow survived until 1906, dying at the age of seventy years. To Patrick Burns and wife six children were born, namely: James, subject of this sketch; John, married and lives on the home farm in Eglon township; Edward, who makes his home in Montana; Thomas, who lives in Nevada; Lizzie, the wife of Ben Frazier, and William, who makes his home in Salt Lake City, Utah.

James Burns was but an infant when his parents brought him to Clay county. Here he grew to manhood on the home farm where he has since resided. He received his education in the local district schools. He has kept the home place well improved and well cultivated, assisted by his brother, John. They have a good home and good general improvements. A great deal of grain and live stock is marketed annually. A good grade of live stock is kept. James owns two hundred and four acres, and John, eighty acres. James is unmarried and makes his home with John, who married Julia Roach in 1907. John Burns and wife have three children, namely: Roselia, Cathryne, and an infant son.

The Burns brothers are members of the Catholic church, and take a warm interest in community affairs.

THEODORE H. ANDERSON.

Although, doubtless, most people would like to remain on the old homestead where they "played away the happy hours of innocent childhood," but few are permitted to do so, from one cause or another; for there is always a sentiment about the hearthstone where the family gathered when we were children that cannot be replaced. So one who, like Theodore H. Anderson, one of the young farmers of Eglon township, Clay county, is fortunate enough to spend his life at his birth-place, is to be envied.

Mr. Anderson was born in the above designated vicinity, in the year 1890. He is a son of Carl and Louisa (Bostrum) Anderson, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their childhood and attended school, but came to America single, he about the year 1867 and the mother making the trip unaccompanied, when twenty-five years old. She is still living on the home place in Eglon township, being now (1918) sixty-one years old. The father died about the year 1903, at the age of fifty-four years.

Carl Anderson worked out as a farm hand in Wisconsin after coming to America for some time. He was married about 1880, and a year or two thereafter homesteaded the farm which his son, Theodore H., now occupies in Eglon township. He worked hard and managed well and in a few years had a good farm and raised large crops of grain and numerous live stock. The place consists of one hundred and sixty acres. To Carl Anderson and wife four children were born, namely: Albert, deceased; Alfred, married and employed on the section gang of the Northern Pacific railroad; Theodore H., of this sketch; and Ella, who lives at home with her mother.

Theodore H. Anderson grew to manhood on the home farm, where he has always remained, and when a boy he attended the district schools. He is operating the place successfully, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has kept the place well improved and it is now in better condition than ever before. He is a persevering and painstaking worker and manages well. He is unmarried. He belongs to the Swedish Mission church. He was at one time president of the Young Peoples Society of the same, and has long been active in church affairs.

OLE H. KASIN.

The properly managed farm not only becomes an annual income producer, but leads on to what is tantamount to an endowment policy or an annuity during the declining years of the farmer, and, finally resolves itself into a provision for the family the farmer leaves behind. One of the successful general farmers of Hawley township, Clay county, is Ole H. Kasin.

Mr. Kasin was born in Norway in 1860. He is a son of Halver and Gunda (Olson) Carson, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, were married and established their home and there the mother is still living at the advanced age of eighty-one years. The father was a farm laborer during his active life. He died in 1905 at the age of sixty-five years. To these parents nine children were born, four of whom are now deceased; those living are Halver, Swengen, Hilge, Gunial and Ole H.

Ole H. Kasin grew to manhood in Norway and there he attended the common schools. He was twenty-eight years old when he immigrated to the United States in 1888. He came to Clay county in 1903 and bought one hundred and sixty acres in section 36, Hawley township, also eighty acres in section 35, and, prospering with advancing years through close applica-

tion and good management, he has added to his original holdings until he now owns one of the choice farms of the township, consisting of four hundred acres, which he has brought up to a high state of improvement and cultivation. He has a large comfortable home and numerous substantial outbuildings. He carries on general and mixed farming, raising a great deal of grain annually, which he feeds to live stock, always keeping a good grade of cattle and hogs as well as horses. He sells a number of carloads of stock for the market every year. He came here with but little capital, but he has forged to the front by his own unaided efforts along legitimate lines. At this writing (June, 1917), he has a fine potato crop of thirty acres. He is in the great potato belt.

Mr. Kasin was married in Iowa in 1889, he having spent his first few years in that state, to Bergert Olson, who was born in 1864 in Norway and there she spent her girlhood and attended school, coming to America in 1887 and locating in Iowa. To this union eight children have been born, named as follows: Halver, married and living in Clay county; Julia, married and living in North Dakota; Emma, married and living in Clay county, and Oscar, Isaac, Gilbert, Olga and Gena are all at home.

Mr. Kasin takes an active interest in local public affairs, and has been treasurer of the school board in his district for the past twelve years. He has been a member of the township board for two years and has filled these offices in a conscientious and faithful manner. He is a member of the Lutheran church.

OLE LARS BECKMAN.

Ole Lars Beckman, a skilled bricklayer of Moorhead, was born in Sweden, March 5, 1858. He is a son of Lars and Karen (Olson) Halverson, both natives of Sweden, where they grew up, were married and continued to make their home until 1888, when they came to Minnesota, locating in Moorhead. Lars Halverson followed farming in Sweden. He and his wife spent nearly all the balance of their lives in Moorhead, his death occurring at the advanced age of eighty-four years. They were the parents of four children who grew to maturity, namely: Lars, Martina, Ole Lars and Karen.

Ole Lars Beckman spent his boyhood in Sweden, where he attended school and worked out as a farm hand. He came to America in 1881 and until 1883 he worked in Montana on construction work on the Northern Pacific railroad. He then located at Moorhead, where he has since made his

home. He worked at various vocations there until 1887, when he began learning the trade of brickmason under John L. Burquist, the first contractor in either Moorhead or Fargo. Mr. Beckman remained with Mr. Burquist until shortly before the latter's death. Since then he has worked for various contractors. He is regarded as an expert bricklayer and his services are always in demand. He is not only swift and painstaking, but is familiar with modern forms of architecture.

Mr. Beckman was married in Moorhead, in 1883, to Ingeborg Matison, a native of Sweden, and a daughter of Mat and Karen (Larson) Matison, both natives of Sweden, where they spent their lives. Their daughter Ingeborg came to the United States on the same ship with her future husband, and worked in Minneapolis until her marriage. To this union two children have been born, Emma and Ella. The Beckmans are members of the Lutheran church.

WALFRED DANIELSON.

One of the famous lines of "The Old Homestead," a popular play a generation ago, was "Young blood tells." This phrase applies not alone to a man's social advancement, but in business life particularly, where the old men are dropping out and the younger generation stepping into their shoes. This fact is not true so much in the farming world as in the trades and professions, but one of the enterprising and most prominent of the younger farmers of Eglon township, Clay county, is Walfred Danielson.

Mr. Danielson was born in 1890 in Swift county, Minnesota. He is a son of Edwin D. and Christine (Anderson) Danielson, both natives of Sweden. They came to America when young and were married in Swift county, this state, about the year 1876. After their marriage they established their home on a farm in that county, owning a good farm, which they operated for a period of twenty-five years, then sold out and bought the place on which their son Walfred now resides, a place of two hundred and forty acres in sections 7 and 8, Eglon township. Edwin D. Danielson made all the improvements now seen on the land, including a cosy residence, a large barn and outbuildings and fences. However, his sons have remodeled the residence and erected new buildings since his death. The father carried on general farming and stock raising successfully until his death, which occurred in 1907 at the age of sixty-four years. He was regarded as an

honest, hardworking, public-spirited citizen. His widow is still living on the homestead, and is now sixty-five years old.

Edwin D. Danielson served as road supervisor for some time, also was a member of the local school board. He was a member of the Swedish Mission church, to which his widow and children also belong, and he was faithful in attending the same. To Edwin D. Danielson and wife nine children were born, named as follows: Emma, who is married and lives at Red Wing, Minnesota; Aniel, who is married and lives in Swift county, this state; August, living on the home place, which he helps operate, also looks after a farm in North Dakota; Adolph, married and living near Red Wing; Anna, the wife of Albert Dahl, a farmer of Eglon township; David, who lives at home, but works out; Walfred, of this sketch; Helen, who lives at home; and Richard, who works in Fargo, North Dakota, is the youngest.

Walfred Danielson was a child when his parents brought him to Eglon township from Swift county, and here he grew to manhood and attended the district schools. He has remained on the home farm, which he is managing in an able and successful manner, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He is unmarried. He was road boss in his district one year. He is a member of the Swedish Mission church.

JOHN E. GRINDE.

John E. Grinde, a farmer of Kragnes township, Clay county, was born in Norway in March, 1868. He is a son of Elling and Gertrude (Huke) Grinde, both natives of Norway, where they grew up, married and made their home until 1870, when they immigrated to America and engaged in farming in Rice county, Minnesota, where the father died in 1899, at the age of sixty-eight years. He owned a good farm there. His widow continued to live on the home place there until her death in 1915, at the age of seventy-four years. To these parents nine children were born, named as follows: Anna, married and lives at Rugby Junction, North Dakota; Unna, who was married and died some time ago; Sunawa, married; John E., of this sketch; Seviert, who lives in Mankato, North Dakota; Edward, who died in 1915; Carrie, married and living at Rugby Junction, North Dakota; Erick, who is married and lives on a rented farm of one hundred and thirty acres in section 22, Kragnes township, and Gertrude, married and living at Mankato, North Dakota.

John E. Grinde was an infant when his parents brought him to America in 1870. He grew to manhood in Rice county, Minnesota, where he helped his father with the general work on the home farm during the summer months, attending the district schools there in the winter time. As a young man he began farming for himself. He came to Clay county in 1896. In his earlier days he spent some time in Wisconsin. He first bought one hundred and sixty acres in Moland township, which he sold later and bought the one hundred and sixty acres where he now lives, in 1903. The land lies in section 23, Kragnes township. He has kept it well improved and under a fine state of cultivation. His land is well adapted to potato raising and he has planted as many as twenty-five acres at one time. He has put up all the buildings on his place and keeps them in good repair.

Mr. Grinde was married in Oxford Village, Wisconsin, in 1902 to Lottie Syntegaard, who was born in 1872 in that town and there she grew to womanhood and attended school. To Mr. and Mrs. Grinde five children have been born, namely: Myrtle, Edward, Alice, Cora and Esther. Mr. Grinde has been treasurer of school district No. 101 for about thirteen years and is still in office.

IVER SCHEIDE.

Iver Scheide, who conducts a furniture store and harness shop at Perley in the southwestern corner of Norman county, was born in Norway, February 20, 1867. He is a son of Johannes and Bertha (Grena) Scheide, both natives of Norway, where they grew to maturity, were married and established their home, spending their lives there on a farm. To these parents five children were born, namely: Ingeborg, Iver, Augusta, Louisa and Ingvald.

Iver Scheide grew to manhood in his native land and there he attended the public schools. As a young man he worked on the home farm, also followed commercial fishing. He immigrated to America in 1887, locating at Perley, Norman county, and here he has resided continuously ever since. During his residence here of thirty years he has seen the country develop from a sparsely settled region to one of the leading agricultural sections of the state. During the first ten years here he worked out as a farm hand. He saved his earnings and started a furniture and undertaking business in Perley, which he has since conducted with growing success. He has also engaged in carpentering, becoming quite a highly skilled workman;

he also does paper hanging and work on telephone lines. He is a man who can take up most any trade quickly, having a natural bent in that direction. In 1915 he purchased a harness shop and has built up an excellent business, carrying a complete line of harness and saddlery; he also still conducts the furniture business.

Mr. Scheide was married to Mrs. Matilda Myere, widow of John Myere and a daughter of Martin Olson and wife. One child was born to Mr. and Mrs. Scheide, Megnon Scheide. One child was also born of Mrs. Scheide's union with John Myere, namely: Syvert Myere. Iver Scheide has been a member of the village council of Perley. He and his wife are members of the Norwegian Lutheran church at Perley, of which he was a deacon for a number of years, and has long been active in church work.

M. COLEMAN BARRY.

M. Coleman Barry, the well-known potato buyer of Hawley, Clay county, hails from the fair Emerald Isle, having been born in Galway, Ireland, October 7, 1857. He is a son of Robert and Barbara (Connolly) Barry, both natives of Ireland, the father of Galway and the latter of Lettermullen. The grandparents, James and Mary (Cahill) Barry, were both born in Cork, Ireland. James Barry spent practically all of his life on his splendid estate, called "Carna," in County Galway. His son, Robert Barry, grew to manhood in the latter county, and there he attended the common schools. As a young man he worked on the homestead; in fact, operated the estate for about twenty years. In 1874 he came to America, and located among his sons in Wabasha county, Minnesota, where they had settled some time previously, having lived on farms there several years. There he and his wife spent the rest of their lives, both dying in the year 1875, dying only a few months apart, her death having occurred first. These parents were members of the Episcopal church. To Robert Barry and wife the following children were born: Joseph, Margaret, James, William, M. Coleman and Mary Ann.

M. Coleman Barry received his education in the public schools of County Galway, Ireland. When sixteen years old, in 1872, he came to America and began working on a farm with his older brothers in Wabasha county, Minnesota, where he remained until 1882, in which year he came to Evansville, Minnesota, and taught the village school one year. He went to George-

town, Clay county, in 1883, where he was employed to buy grain for the Pillsbury & Hulbert Elevator Company, continuing successfully in that line until 1900, when he invested in timber lands in the North. He spent his time looking after his timber holdings until 1907, when he turned his attention to farming in Becker county, Minnesota, continuing as a general farmer with gratifying results until in 1916, when he traded his farm for a store in Richville, Otter Tail county, this state, but a few months later he moved his stock of goods to Hawley, Clay county, and carried on a large and growing business there until he was burned out on January 25, 1917. Since September, 1916, he has been buying potatoes for Leslie Welter.

Mr. Barry was married in 1887 to Minnie Belle Herbert, and to that union one child has been born, Joan Barry. Mr. Barry is a member of the Congregational church.

ARCHIE WHALEY.

Archie Whaley, editor of the *Clay County Herald*, published at Hawley, Minnesota, was born at Waukon, Iowa, November 21, 1862. He is a son of Archie and Mary (Olson) Whaley. The father was born in Oneida county, New York, and the mother in Christiania, Norway. Archie Whaley, Sr., spent his earlier years in the East, removing to Iowa about 1845, being one of the pioneers of that state. He established his future home at Waukon, where he engaged in farming and the milling business, remaining there until 1881, when he came to Hawley, Clay county, where he spent the rest of his life. He was twice married. Six children were born of his first union, namely: Theodore, Eliza, R. S., M. C., Caroline and Laurretta. After the death of his first wife he married Mary Olson, and five children were born to them, namely: Archie, of this sketch; Otis, deceased, and Delia, Roxey and Judd.

Archie Whaley grew to manhood at Waukon, Iowa, and there attended the public schools. He came to Hawley, Minnesota, in 1880, and engaged in farming near there the first two years, then conducted an implement business at Hawley for about six years, enjoying a good trade with the surrounding country. He then turned his attention to farming again for a few years. In 1894 he established the *Clay County Herald* and has been interested in its publication ever since and has been sole owner during the

past twelve years. He has a good plant and his paper has gradually increased in circulation and influence in this section of the state under his management.

In 1906 Mr. Whaley was elected sheriff of Clay county, which office he held for eight years, discharging his duties in an able, faithful and satisfactory manner. He has held all the town offices of Hawley, including that of mayor; he also served several years as deputy sheriff of the county. As a public servant he has had the confidence of all parties. He was reared in the faith of the Congregational church and affiliated with the same. He moved to Moorhead in 1906 and has since resided there.

Mr. Whaley was married in 1899 to Cecelia Swenson. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Whaley, namely: Leora, John, Ralph, Esther and Irvin.

LAMBERT HERMAN, JR.

One of the alert business men of Georgetown, Clay county, is Lambert Herman, Jr., contractor and builder, who was born in Germany, July 30, 1877. He is a son of Lambert and Angelica (Keiser) Herman, both natives of Germany, the father born on December 17, 1835, and the mother on November 9, 1855. They grew up in their native land, married and continued to reside there until 1870, when they immigrated to America, locating in Michigan, in the mining region. Two years later they moved to Georgetown, Clay county, and have since resided here. The father is owner of about two hundred and seventy acres of excellent land, two miles southwest of the village, and he has been very successful as a general farmer and stock raiser. His place is well improved and he is well known throughout Georgetown township, which he has seen develop into an excellent and populous farming locality, from the wild prairies during his residence here of thirty-six years. He has played well his part in this transformation.

The following children have been born to Lambert Herman, Sr., and wife: Belle, Lambert, Jr., Joseph, John, Edward, Katherine, Carrie, Andrew and Grace. They also have an adopted son, Philip.

Lambert Herman, Jr., grew to manhood in Clay county, being two years old when his parents brought him from Germany. He was educated in the public schools of Georgetown. He assisted his father with the work on the home farm during vacation periods, but not taking kindly to the life of a farmer in the north, he learned the carpenter's trade when a young

man, at which he has become quite expert and he has since continued this trade with success, being one of the best-known carpenters and builders in the northwestern part of Clay county. His services are in good demand and his jobs are always satisfactory. He is a keen observer and a student of modern architecture and his work is always up to date. He does all kinds of building work, and residences, barns and public buildings as well as business houses all over this part of the county stand as monuments to his skill as a builder.

Mr. Herman is unmarried. He is a member of the village council at Georgetown. He was reared in the Catholic faith, from which he has not departed.

HENRY V. ANDERSON.

Henry V. Anderson, the subject of this sketch, is of Swedish ancestry, his father and mother, E. G. Anderson and Hannah Anderson, both being natives of that country. Henry V. Anderson was born in Carver county, Minnesota, December 20, 1872.

E. G. Anderson came to America before the Civil War and enlisted as a soldier in that war. He served two years and was with his regiment in many engagements and campaigns in which it participated until the close of the war. After the war he returned to Carver county, where he continued to live until his death, which occurred in 1914. He was the father of ten children: C. F., Sophia, Selma, J. O., A. V., Henry V., A. W., H. A., R. F. and Freda.

Henry V. Anderson was educated in the public schools of Carver county, Minnesota. While yet a young man he engaged in the grain business, and for the last twenty-three years he has been buying grain for the Great Western Grain Company. In 1907 he came to Hitterdal to take the management of their elevator at this place and has been thus engaged ever since. Mr. Anderson has a farm of one hundred and forty acres in Highland Grove township, where he makes his home and conducts general farming, in addition to his work incident to the management of the grain elevator.

Mr. Anderson was married, in 1897, to Tille Bursley, and to this union five children have been born: Russell H., Gail, Wilfred, Hazel and Kenneth. He holds membership in the Woodmen.

